

## 20 years late...

Two decades after AMA closed its doors, the Class of 1984 finally got to walk across the gym stage to receive a certificate at the hands of AMA's Superintendent that year.

**Colonel William Sedr**, now Headmaster at Fishburne, conferred the certificates on three members of the Class of '84 representing all of the AMA cadets who would have graduated that year had the school not closed.

Pictured at right, Sedr presents a certificate to **Chris Meek, '84**, of Wilmington, NC. Meek was from New York State when he attended Augusta.

The presentation was the capstone on Reunion 2004, the theme of which was *It's about time...*

More on this part of the 2004 reunion on page 7.



## Museum now open six days a week

THE AMA Alumni House/Museum is now open six days a week from 10 AM until 4 PM. The Museum will close only on Mondays. "We are thrilled that we are able to do this," says **Goodloe Saunders, '57**, Chairman of the AMA Alumni Foundation which has responsibility for the museum. The six hours six days a week schedule is the first step toward getting signs erected on Interstate 81 designating the turnoffs for Fort Defiance. **Norvell West, '83**, already has had the signs prepared for installation. AMA is working with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to arrange inspections of the museum and the erection of the signs. While AMA must pay to put the signs in place, VDOT will maintain them. Research shows that signs on the interstate will increase visitors dramatically and help to find lost alumni.

**AMA alumni win knockout drill with Massanutten MA**

**Three AMA Legacy Scholarships given during 2004 reunion**

**Jim Councill, '49, George Holt, '60, and Julian Quarles, '35 receive AMA Alumni Medals**

**Augusta Military Academy  
Alumni Association, Inc.**

June 2004



Dear AMA friends,

What a great reunion we had the last weekend in April! The turnout was spectacular, the weather was perfect, the participation was terrific, and the functions were meaningful and well presented. Most of all, we had many new faces, first timers that had never returned since they passed through the front gate as a cadet. After many, many years they experienced the camaraderie that awaits all Alumni. It was about time! Thanks for attending...our Reunions keep getting better and better.

Many projects drive our Association and they need your involvement:

- 1-Getting the signs installed on Interstate 81 to spread the story about the Augusta Military Academy Museum....(more visitors and more lost Alumni found)
- 2- Funding the extra employees needed to keep the Museum open the required hours per week to satisfy the Virginia Department of Transportation so the signs can be installed on I-81.
- 3- Participation in the Roller Society- A simple way to leave something behind for the AMA Scholarships and the preservation of the AMA Museum.
- 4- Assistance with expenses of our excellent newsletter, *The Bayonet*, the maintenance and administrative costs associated with the Museum and the funding of our Scholarships.

Remember your time at AMA....remember the people you met at AMA....remember the teachers and coaches at AMA that have helped mold who you are today..... remember the buildings, some of which still stand as historical icons to a wonderful learning institution. Most of all, remember the experience. As young boys, we grew up and became young men at an early age....the experience reflects on our lives each and every day....and as you utilize these experiences in your daily life...remember the Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation with your contributions.

The 2005 reunion will be on 28, 29 & 30 April. It's never too early to make reservations or start planning. I encourage the Class Agents and each of you to spend the next ten months calling an old AMA friend and making arrangements to meet at Reunion 2005. Just think what the turn out would be if each of us located and brought just 2 lost alumni ...WOW....we'd be on a roll!! Don't squander the time! Go ahead, pick up the phone, make the call, extend your heart to an old friend and arrange to meet him at Reunion 2005. As time goes, next year is just around the corner.

I wish you good health and happiness and encourage you to keep AMA in your thoughts.

*Garry Granger*

Garry Granger '71  
President, AMA Alumni  
Association, Inc.



**Volume 2004, Number 3**

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P.O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101

Editor: Bob Bradford, '50  
Circulation Manager: Ed Click, '50

The *Bayonet* is distributed to alumni and friends of the Augusta Military Academy.

Notice of changes of address should be sent to Alumni Records, c/o Edwin Click, 23 Hickory Nut Lane, Staunton, VA 24401. Please provide your 9-digit ZIP code!

The *Bayonet* welcomes information and articles for or about AMA alumni. Share the news of promotions, awards, retirement, births, marriages, deaths, etc. Please print or type your submission. Clear, correctly exposed photos are welcome.

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AMA HOMEPAGE  
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E-mail: [bj@bjdorsay.com](mailto:bj@bjdorsay.com)

**MUSEUM HOURS**  
**10 AM - 4 PM**  
**Tuesday through Sunday**  
**(Closed Mondays)**  
**Tours at other times can be arranged**

1938

## (LARRY KURTZ)

**Captain Larry Kurtz, USN, Retd.**, said that he and Jill hated to miss the reunion this year, but his travels are now pretty much limited to the area around his hometown, Punta Gorda, Florida. We missed you folks too.

1943

## (CHRIS HARRISON)

**Bob Guggenheimer** was but a block away from one of the terrorist blasts which rocked Madrid this past March. **Mickey Toms, '67**, and his family visited Bob when they were in Spain earlier this year.

[guggenheimer@teleline.es]

1944

## (BILL McOWEN)

**Earl Weed**, First Captain his senior year, found the AMA website and after many years he is back in touch. Originally in the Class of 1945, he doubled up his work and graduated in December of 1944, then joined the Navy. He now lives in Dallas and would very much have liked to come back for his 60<sup>th</sup> reunion, but they had a better offer: a wedding in Paris. Earl hopes to get back for Reunion 2005.

1946

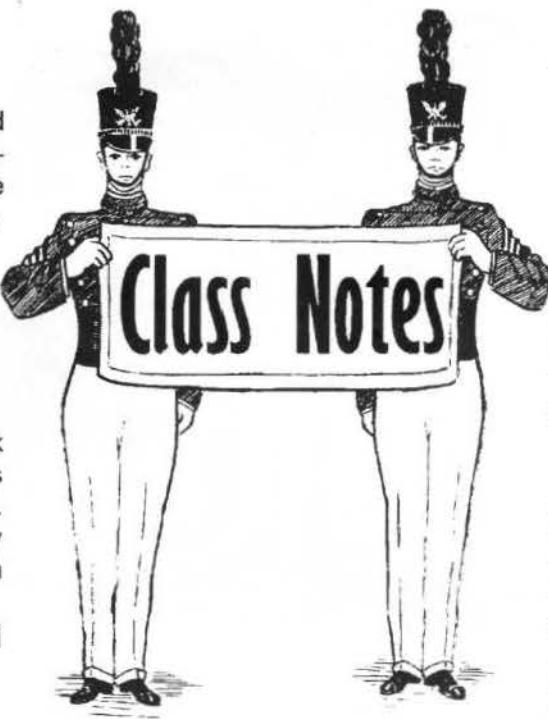
## (NONE)

**Nae Hugh Pearson** is a substitute pharmacist at a Kroger store in Lynchburg. He told **Buddy McCausland, '39**, that he would much rather read *The Bayonet* than the Lynchburg daily newspaper. Thanks so much! (See **Alan Pearson, '48**)

1948

## (BILL HARRIS)

**Bill Mangus** says that he is alive and well in Bevil Oaks, TX. After being in the military, he settled in Texas and has "fond memories" of AMA.



60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY - Guys from the Class of 1944 at the Friday Awards Banquet: Peter Lambert from Richmond, Dr. Don Elston from Flagstaff, AZ, and Bill McOwen from Cincinnati.

reunion. Feel better fast, Hal!

[halwaltjr@citcom.net]

1949

## (FRANK SPENCER)

**Ed Chauncey** recently had cataract surgery. After having had to look down for three full weeks, he's doing much better now. We all owe Ed and Bobby so much for all they do to make the annual Silent Auction such a success.

[sumhill@starpower.net]

**Frank Spencer** has been recovering from a heart attack he suffered last October. Then, in February, his blood pressure went sky high and he had a terrible nose bleed. After a trip to the hospital, Frank returned home much improved. [frank-cville@att.net]

1950

## (JIM LUPTON)

**Tommy Clements** is justly proud of his daughter, Kathy. She graduated from Mississippi State and went to Dallas where she got a job with an ad agency. After a couple of years, she went to WFAA where she began in sales and progressed to the top job – station manager – the youngest woman to manage a major TV station in the country at that time. This past

February, she was named President and General Manager of WFAA, the largest ABC affiliate west of the Mississippi. In March, the Dallas/Fort Worth chapter of American Women in Radio and Television, gave her their Silver Award for Excellence. Congratulations to Kathy and Tommy!

**Ed Click** and Sue left the snow behind in Staunton in February when they flew off to Buenos Aires where they boarded a ship to sail around the tip of South America, up the west coast of the

continent, and back through the Panama Canal, a 35 day trip in all. In May, Ed, Sue and sons David and Bill, both AMA Legacy Scholarship recipients, traveled in Italy.

[grampso2@juno.com]

**Jack McKenna** is back on our mailing list, thanks to **Jim Sylvanus, '49**. Jack is retired and lives in Salisbury, MD.

[Jim - sylfox@bluecrab.org]

#### 1951

##### (FRANK PILLEY)

**Colonel Frank Pilley** is mathematics professor at George Mason University in Northern Virginia and adjunct professor of math at Marymount University. Frank says, "I play tennis three times a week and still mow my own yard which makes me a dying breed in my neighborhood."

[FPilley@aol.com]



**55<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY** - The Class of 1949 gathers in the gymnasium. L. to r., Frank Spencer of Charlottesville, Clyde Ramsey of Asheville, NC, Jim Councill of San Antonio, TX, Ambassador John "Jock" Shirley of Stonington, CT, Doug Nemier of Milton, PA, Ed Chauncey of Culpeper, Chuck Pine of Winchester, and Bill Rubush of Seminole, FL.



**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY** - The Class of '54 celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Reunion 2004. L. to r., Ken Hoke from Micaville, NC, Ed Dulin from Utica, MI, Tom Lassell of Chester, VA, and Bob Harris of West Suffield, CT and soon of Amherst, VA when his new home is ready.

#### 1952

##### (JIM WHITE)

**Roger Messick** writes from Prescott, AZ that he has just completed a hike into the Grand Canyon making the ten mile trip down into the abyss in three hours 12 minutes, and taking four hours ten minutes to climb out again. He and Jean are taking their children

on a Christmas cruise this year, "a way to keep from having to put up Christmas decorations."

[TR MESSUP@aol.com]

**Otto Cuervo** says that he and his dog, Poochie, are doing well in Pasadena, Texas.

[hhavocnhell@mail.ev1.net]

#### 1954

##### (KEN HOKE)

**Gilberto Goldstein** is a Senator in the National Congress in Honduras and a prominent leader of the National Party. He is an advisor for Family Hospital Corporation de Honduras, President of Grupo Harinero Sula, and a member of more than 20 corporate boards. We are proud to count him as a fellow alumnus!

**Pete Stone** lives in Water Valley, Mississippi, and just got back on our mailing list a couple of months back. An *Ab Astra*, he was Captain of Headquarters Company his senior year. Welcome, home, Pete!

#### 1956

##### (NONE)

**Dr. Jim Mahanes**, who is a physician in Greenville, SC, underwent knee surgery in March and is doing well. He is the brother of the late **Ronnie Mahanes, '53**. Their mother, Polly, lives in Charlottesville where she is recovering from a slight stroke. She used to furnish the flowers for all the AMA dances as Ronnie did later when he ran the florist shop.

**1958****(NONE)**

**Terry Snow** has moved to a Lynchburg nursing home, The Carrington. Terry suffered a stroke a few years back. Terry would like to hear from his AMA friends. New phone 434/847-7208, Address: 2406 Atherolt Road, Lynchburg, VA 24501.

**1960****(FRANK WILLIAMSON & LUKE SNYDER)**

**Donald Russell** lives in Virginia Beach where he has been in the home building business since 1969. He spent 1966-68 in the Army in Korea.

[FBlachRussell@aol.com]

**1962****(BOB GEBEAUX & BOB RIDGEWAY)**

**Kevin Kissling** graduated from the Pennsylvania Military College in 1966 and served in the Army for four years, attaining the rank of captain. He then began a long career with Johnson and Johnson. Kevin is now semi-retired in Columbus, NJ where he lives with his wife, Heddy. Their son, Kevin, is now living in San Francisco.

[kwkiss1@msn.com]

**Tom Douglas** is Assistant Director of Security at Johns Hopkins University. He couldn't come to the reunion because Johns Hopkins Homecoming celebration was the same weekend. He also made a presentation to the Maryland Crime Prevention Institute at Ocean City as the weekend started.

[kinsale333@aol.com]

**1963****(MIKE BASTO)**

**Colonel Dean Hanson** checks in with a new e-mail address. Glad to keep up with you, Dean.

[coldrh@netzero.com]

**Dick Platt** passed away in 1997 and his sister, Kay, just found the AMA website. She remembers "the long drives to Fort Defiance from New Jersey before the advent of interstate highways," and still has a silver AMA charm that Dick gave her on her 10<sup>th</sup> birthday.

[kmp@snip.net]

**40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY - The guys from 1964 in front of the AMA Alumni House/Museum.** L. to r., front, Mike Foster of Harrisburg, PA and Allen Josey from Martinez, GA; second row, Nick Nicol of Spring, TX, Ken Eichner from Crossville, TN, Jessie Porter of Cameron, NC, and George Richardson from Newport News. Back row, Randy Hoilman of Sweet Briar, VA, Jack Newkirk from Bridgeton, NJ, Bob Ash of Rock, WV and Bob Andes from Richmond.

**1964****(KEN EICHNER)**

**Gregory Pearce** was a junior at AMA his one year there, and would like to hear from anyone who remembers him.

[gregp692@cs.com]

**1965****(NONE)**

**Paul Baker** lives in Lexington, VA, and says he doesn't hear a lot about the guys from his class. So, fellows from '65, speak up!

[creativedesignhomes@yahoo.com]

**1966****(NONE)**

**Tom Lovatt** first came to AMA when he was 13 years old. He was the only cadet from Canada attending Augusta at the time.

[lovatt5204@rogers.com]

**1967****(MAC McINNIS)**

**David Raybin** is a trial attorney in Nashville. He recently was listed in Best Lawyers in America and the 100 Best Lawyers in Tennessee by the Tennessee Business magazine. He

has authored three books on criminal defense practice. He and Kay have been married for 28 years and have two children, both in college.

[DRaybin@aol.com]

**Mickey Toms** reports that his stepson, Peter Baxter, winner of an AMA Legacy Scholarship in each of the last two years, was in Spain with the William and Mary/University of Virginia Travel Abroad Program when the terrorist attack came in March, but thankfully he is OK.

[Baxtom@aol.com]

**1969****(BILL SCARBOROUGH & NICKY SYROPOULOS)**

**Paul Raybin** operates a computer consulting firm in Staunton.

**1972****(LEWIS KENNEDY)**

**Warren Fleming** thinks he may be the first African-American to graduate from AMA. Can anyone challenge that claim? He lives in Damascus, MD.

[wkfleming@qst-inc.com]

**1973****(JIM ATKINSON & JOE GARRY)**

Ed Prado returned to Guatemala after he graduated from AMA, went on to dental school, and did graduate work at the University of Alabama, Birmingham where he was on the faculty until 1987. He started a private practice in North Palm Beach that year and since 1995, he also has had an office in Guatemala. He and Julia married in 1981 and they have four children: Fernando, 20, Sofia, 18, Manuel, 10, and Tatiana, 8.

[epradoayau@bellsouth.net]

**1976****(JIM MITCHELL)**

Mike Payne and Rhonda will celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Mike is Senior Emergency Services Consultant and Staff Training Coordinator for TBS Loss Control in Rome, GA. They raise English Springer Spaniel gundogs, go spelunking and are avid campers. Youngest daughter Holly is a criminology major at Ohio State.

[MPayneresq@aol.com]

**1977****(SHAWN OGIMACHI)**

Ron Spriggs is a practicing lawyer in Amarillo, Texas.

**1981****(TODD LIVICK)**

Danilo Molina Arteaga found AMA's website from his home in Venezuela. He is eager to hear from fellows from his era at Augusta.

[dayapa@hotmail.com]

**1982****(NONE)**

Eddie Mor is looking for fellows from his class who will send him an e-mail.

[eddiemor@hotmail.com]

**1987****(NONE)**

Brett Jackson was at AMA for three years and was there when it closed in January of 1984. He would have graduated in 1987.

[texanflies@austin.rr.com]

**NEXT YEAR'S REUNION!**  
**APRIL 28-29-30, 2005**



**25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY - Two from the Class of 1979: Paul Karch of Deerfield Beach, FL and Latelle Lafollette, IV, of Charleston WV.**

## **ATTENTION:**

### **Classes of 1945, 1955, 1965 & 1980**

*In just ten months, Reunion 2005 will be here – the last weekend in April – 28, 29 and 30.*

*At this time, we do NOT have Class Agents for four of the classes which will be honored next year:*

**1945 - 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

**1955 - 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

**1965 - 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

**1980 - 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

*We are hoping that by the time the next issue of The Bayonet comes out, we will have volunteers to fill these positions. We will provide Class Agents with mailing addresses and phone numbers for their classmates as well as drafting letters to go to them. Agents will approve the wording of the letters, then receive them addressed, stamped and ready for a signature and perhaps your personal note of welcome to Reunion 2005. Won't you volunteer to represent your class?*

*E-mail: [AMABayonet@aol.com](mailto:AMABayonet@aol.com). Phone: 925/855-7338. Write: The Bayonet, 529 Justin Morgan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507.*

# Class of '84 finally gets graduation certificates

A score of years after they would have graduated from Augusta Military Academy, members of the Class of 1984 received certificates attesting to that fact, finally walking across the gym stage to receive the parchments from the hand of AMA's last Headmaster.

**Colonel William Sedr**, now the Superintendent at Fishburne Military School, gave certificates to **Strachan Carpenter, Chris Meek and Steve Reech** who represented all other members of the Class of '84. In 2004, there was bunting on the stage and an audience on folding chairs on the gym floor. But in April of 1984, the stage stood empty, no chairs were set up, the campus was still and deserted, the school having closed for good in January of that year.

For several years, Meek and Reech have lobbied for this recognition from the school they loved. The certificates were struck and the arrangements made to present them during Reunion 2004, the theme of which was "It's about time..."



THE PAVER SAYS IT ALL - It's 2004, 20 years since AMA closed, and the Class of 1984 finally had its chance to walk across the gymnasium stage on 24 April.



STEVE REECH, '84, shakes hands with Colonel Bill Sedr who has just handed him his certificate certifying that he would have graduated from AMA in June of 1984.



FAMILY AFFAIR - Chris Meek's entire family was on hand to see him receive his long awaited certificate. *"In some ways, this was better than a diploma. AMA taught loyalty and the mere fact that we were robbed of our chance to graduate caused AMA alumni to come through for us."*



STRACHAN CARPENTER holds his certificate moments after receiving it from Colonel Sedr on the gymnasium stage across which all AMA graduates have walked.



**DON AND SHIRLEY** - Back for their second straight reunion all the way from Flagstaff, Arizona, Shirley and Dr. Don Elston, '44, as they await the Friday bus for a visit to John Boy's neck of the woods.



**YEARBOOK RESEARCH** - The *Recalls* from 1969 and 1970 were the focus of Ray Marcantoni, '70, of Baltimore and Bill Baeder, '69, of Cottontown, TN in the Hospitality Tent on Saturday.



*This is to certify that*

**Gustavo A. Campos**

*was pursuing a course of study as prescribed by*

*Augusta Military Academy*

*when the school closed in January 1984.*

*He might have completed the required courses and passed the  
requisite qualifying examinations that would have  
resulted in his being awarded a diploma in May 1984.*

*In recognition thereof, this*

## **CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT**

*is presented and the Seal of the U. S. A. Alumni Association  
is affixed this twenty-fourth day of April 2004 A.D.*

*President*

**TWENTY YEARS LATE** - This is the certificate that the Class of '84 is receiving. Thanks to Bob Harris, '54, for the excellent engraving and printing!



**SUNDAY MORNING** - Lillian and Sergio Fernandez, '67, of Bloomfield, New Jersey at the Prayer Breakfast.

## Uncle Dolly and generosity

# Joe McCue, '66, son of Colonel Cy, pays tribute to Roller, Livick families

The valedictorian of the Class of 1966 paid tribute to the altruism of AMA's founder and his descendants at the annual Founder's Day ceremonies during Reunion 2004.

Speaking to alumni assembled on the Senior Steps on an overcast spring day, Joe McCue, '66, spoke about one person who epitomized the kindness and magnanimity of the Roller family. *"It was an uncle who made a tremendous impact on my life. He was not my mother's brother nor my father's brother, but he wanted us to call him Uncle Dolly. He always gave Christmas gifts to my sisters and to me, always remembered our birthdays with a gift, and when he went to Chicago and New York for conventions, he would always send us a postcard. We particularly liked getting the postcards from Atlantic City because we knew that soon we would have a box of salt water taffy at our house, a unique experience in Verona in 1950."*

McCue said that he had always wanted to be an AMA cadet and at age ten, he came to Augusta as a day student in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. *"When I was getting outfitted for my uniform, my dad took me aside and said, 'Son, once you put on the AMA uniform, you can't call Colonel Roller Uncle Dolly anymore...'"*, Joe recalls.

He says that those who lived in barracks likely did not realize what a tremendous impact AMA and Roller had on the community around the school. *"If you were a supplier to AMA or a physician in the area or a member of the Stone Church congregation, you were pulled into AMA by Colonel Roller,"* McCue remembers. *"People in the local community were invited to football games, dances, and the Sunday parades, and made to feel a part of AMA."*

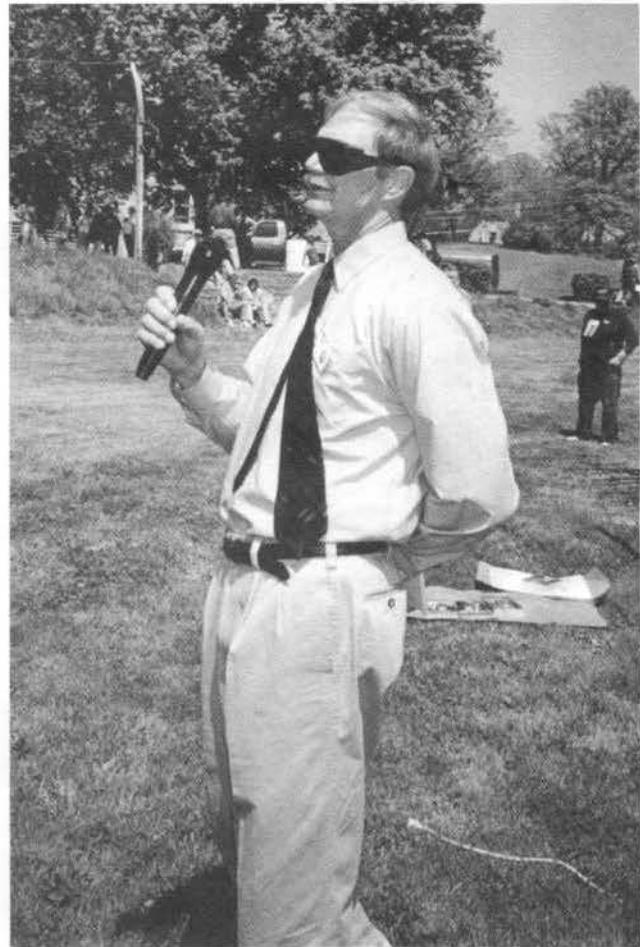
McCue said that part of Colonel Roller's persona was his oft exhibited generosity. *"It was not unusual for him to tell Chuck Savige to get Polly Webb, then take Cadet So-and-So to Washington for a day of R&R."*

*My Mom and Dad had decided to have two children, and I was the second child. In 1950, my parents were having some problems, so Colonel Roller sent them both to New York City for a weekend to work things out. Nine months later, my little sister arrived!"*

Joe said he does not think there is a generosity gene: *"Professor Roller was a very generous man and Colonel Tom and Colonel Charles Roller, Jr. learned kindness from their father. And that spirit of generosity didn't stop when General Roller died in 1963. It continued with Mal and Linda Livick."*



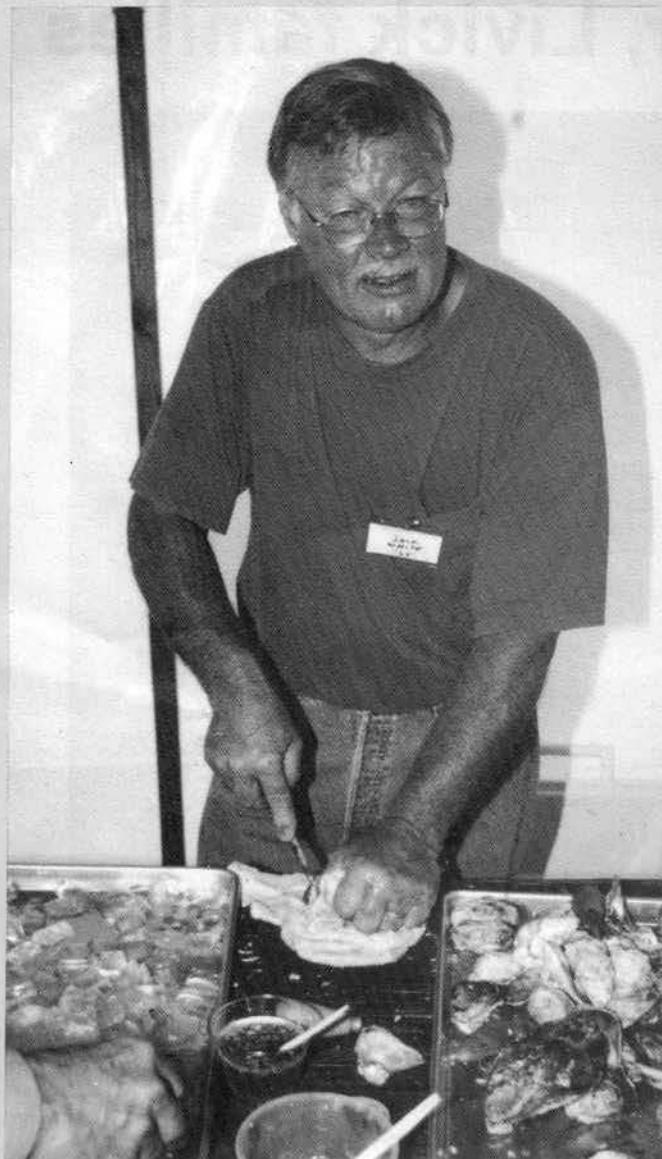
Cadet J. C. "Joe" McCue, III,  
1966 Recall



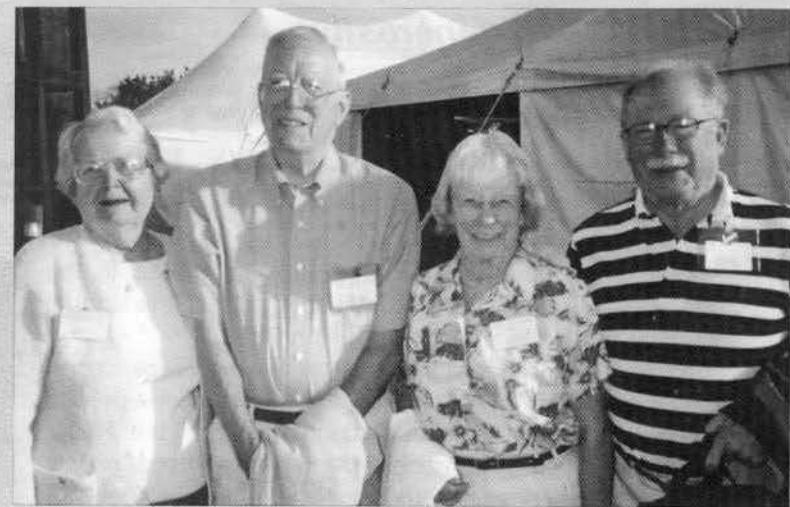
DAY STUDENT PERSPECTIVE - Joe McCue, '66, stands beneath the west goal posts as he talks about his experiences as a faculty member's son and a day student.

McCue concluded with a story that makes his point. He and some other boys were playing baseball in Lily Valley next to the gym, using a piece of athletic tape for the ball and a broom for a bat. Suddenly, the Gray Ghost came in the front gate and came to a stop on the road above the boys. Joe tells what happened: *"What are you boys doing?," Colonel Roller asked, and one boy said that we were playing baseball. The Big Boy said nothing, got back in his car and drove off. A little later, he came back and this time drove right down the hill into Lily Valley, stopped his car, and got out. We thought, 'Well, we're going to get it now,' but instead the colonel opened the car trunk and said, 'You boys need to be playing baseball with the proper equipment,' and presented us with a new ball, bat and three gloves... I still have that glove."*

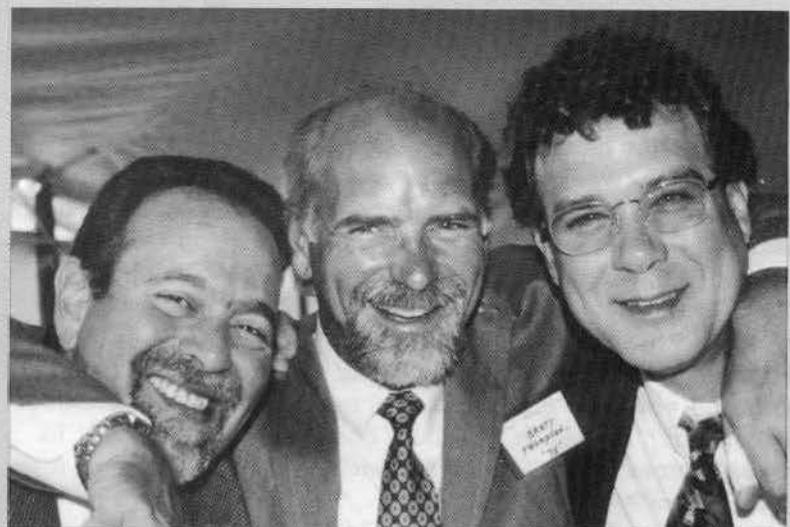
# REUNION 2004



**ALIVE, ALIVE, OH!** - Jack White, '68, of Arlington, is busy shucking fresh oysters in the Hospitality Tent. *"These babies were in the Chesapeake Bay just twelve hours ago,"* he said. Below, Sue Willey (Mrs. Rod, '51) with Dr. "Boots" Solan, '43, of Stowe, OH.



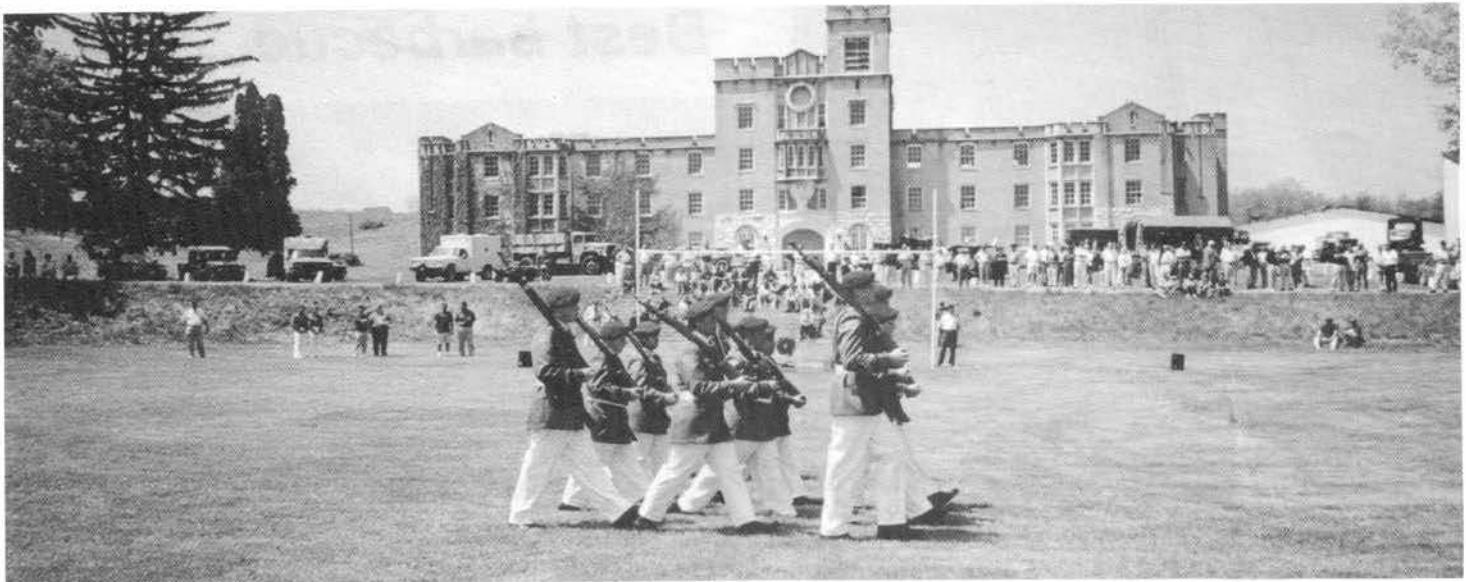
**FROM FAR AND NEAR** - Eloise and Nate Adams, '41, came to the reunion from Lexington while Shirley and Dr. Don Elston, '44, came all the way from Flagstaff, Arizona.



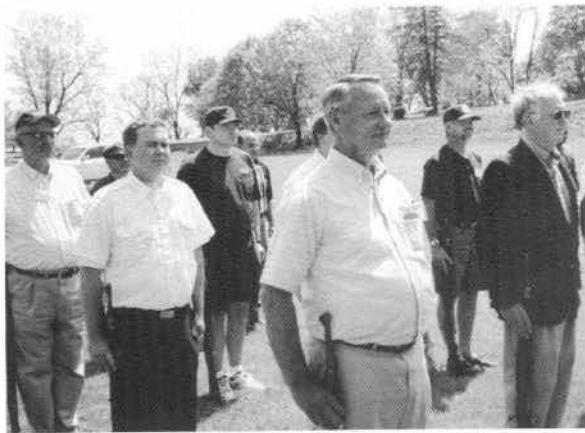
**HAPPY FELLAS FROM THE '70'S** - Bill Morales, '73, of Hummel's Wharf, PA; Brett Thompson, '75, from Oak Island, NC; and Tom McCabe, '74, of Pine Plains, NY, enjoy each other's company at Reunion 2004, Tom's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



**GETTING CAUGHT UP** - Alex Kozma, '50, of Verona, PA, maybe the fastest guy ever to don an AMA football uniform; Dale Powers, '58, of Swoope, VA; and Bobby Rhea, '47, Staunton.

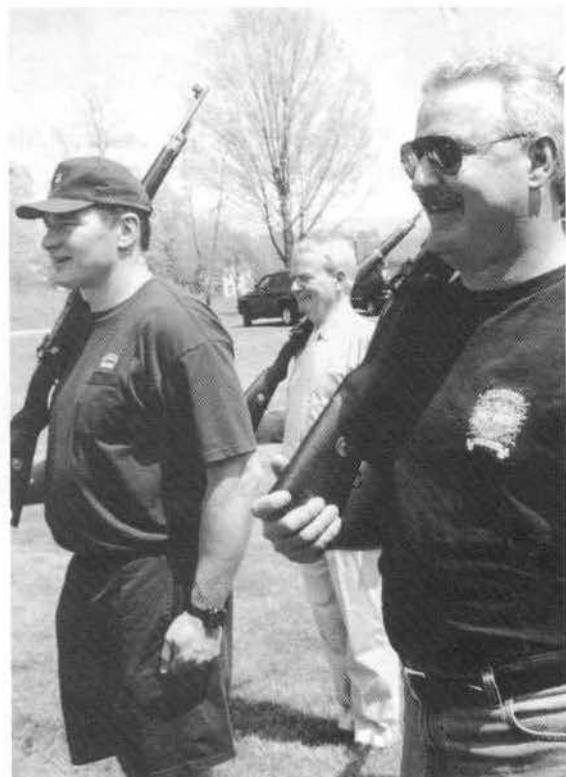


## **AMA prevails in "knock out" drill with MMA**



**LIKE AGED CHEESE, SHARP!** - AMA alumni take their place in the ranks of the MMA Drill Team, l. to r., Phil Wharton, '64; Strachan Carpenter, '84; Jim Mitchell, '76; Bob Harris, '54; Brett Thompson, '75; and Ken Hoke, '54. Wharton and Carpenter outlasted the rest.

The last two left standing at a "knock out" drill during Reunion 2004 were Augusta men who outlasted members of Massanutten Military Academy's Drill Team. The MMA team, above, performed on the drill field, then invited AMA alumni to join their ranks. With fast and furious commands from the Massanutten Drill Instructor, participants were eliminated one by one by two judges from VMI, Cadets Laura Hash, daughter of Liz and **John Hash**, '75, and Patrick Tangonan, the present recipient of AMA's VMI Scholarship. When the last two Massanutten cadets were thumbed out, only AMA's **Phil Wharton**, '64, and **Strachan Carpenter**, '84, remained, a fitting reward for Wharton back for his 40<sup>th</sup> reunion and Carpenter back for his 20<sup>th</sup>.



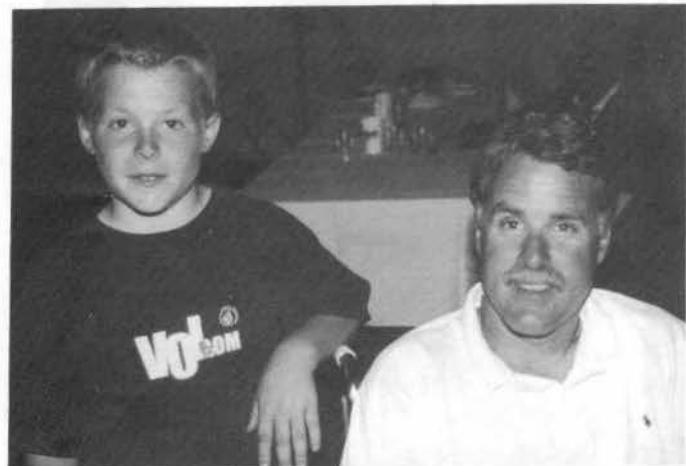
**THREE'S COMPANY** - Jim Mitchell, '76, Ambassador John "Jock" Shirley, '49, and Tom DelValle, '73, at right shoulder arms.



**DON'T BOTHER ME - I'M EATING** - Luke Snyder, '60, and Sue Messerley of Mid Valley Press resting between courses at the Saturday night barbecue. Mid Valley prints *The Bayonet*.



**A STANDING O** - For Gary Nicholson and all his elves who prepared and served the barbecue.



**THEY TRIED TO TELL ME I'M TOO YOUNG** - Well, actually, you are, Morgan-Taylor Leavel. It was he who won a bottle of Virginia Gentleman at the Saturday barbecue which father Scott Leavel, '78, took off his hands.

## Best barbecue... ever!



**THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID** - Gary Nicholson, '70, fixed the best barbecue that any reunion goers have ever tasted. Gary says that he and his sweet wife, Susan, "pulled more than 50 pounds of Boston Butt to make the barbecue." It was just damned delicious! Gary also bought some \$1,400 in cooking equipment which he hopes to use for many years. Your contribution is very special, Gary and Susan. We can't thank you enough. Susan also made four gallons of garden pasta salad for Saturday night. And they contributed nearly 50 pounds of smoked sausage and four gallons of shrimp. And just to be sure no one went hungry, Gary threw in a ham!

TO KEEP UP WITH WHAT IS GOING ON AT AMA,  
JUST SIGN ON TO:

**AMAALUMNI.ORG**

# "It's About Time": Dr. Mary DeCredico, Assistant Dean at the Naval Academy, salutes AMA's founder and his legacy

*Dr. Mary DeCredico, head of the History Department and Assistant Dean at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, spoke at the Saturday luncheon during Reunion 2004.*

*Her remarks are carried here without edits.*



Frank Williamson has told me much about Augusta Military Academy, and I have been fortunate for the past year to receive *The Bayonet*. As a graduate of an independent girl's prep school, I have been struck by several things: the incredible loyalty of AMA alumni to their much-loved *alma mater*, and by the camaraderie you all enjoy: that comes through clearly in word and picture, and now, in person.

Finally, how extraordinary that you continue to meet, fund scholarships, and preserve your memories twenty years after the school was forced to close its doors. You have made Professor Charles Roller, and his ancestors, proud.

And yet, as a Southern historian who specializes in the Confederate era, I am not surprised at AMA's birth nor its alumni's loyalty. Primary, secondary and college level education with a military bent were quite common in the South, beginning as early as the 1830s. The Commonwealth of Virginia took the lead in this. People such as J. T. L. Preston, the founder of Virginia Military Institute, saw in military education, a way to "strengthen the character of Virginia's young men." Education offered at that OTHER Academy, (at USNA we call it "Hudson High,"), the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York was the model. Military instruction and a liberal education, it was believed, "would inculcate habits of order, diligence, and punctuality. Cadets would spend those hours not taken up with study in military drill rather than in the idleness that resulted in dissipation and mischief." Students would benefit from discipline and good moral training.

#### Inspired by J.E.B. Stuart?

I am not certain what precisely motivated Charles Summerville Roller to establish the Augusta Male Academy in 1874 or 1879. We know he was a veteran of General J.E.B. Stuart's cavalry, having enlisted just three days after the First Battle of Manassas in 1861, and that he survived many crucial engagements; we know he outlived his venerable commander; and we know he tutored young Confederate veterans after the war. Perhaps he was inspired by his commanding officer, JEB Stuart, who

graduated from West Point; or perhaps he followed General Robert E. Lee's exhortation to his soldiers at Appomattox to "go home...and be good citizens." Regardless, though he remained a civilian, he saw military education, especially at the secondary level, as being the preeminent way to educate and train young men to be good citizens in the postwar world.

In the wreckage of post-War Virginia, such a goal was audacious at best. Indeed, the war had been cruel to the Old Dominion. More than 30 per cent of the war was fought in the Washington-Richmond corridor; it had been besieged at Richmond and Petersburg; and its lifeline in the Shenandoah Valley had been, as Ulysses Grant ordered General Philip Sheridan, stripped clean so "a crow flying over it would have to carry its provender." The Virginians who survived, both military and civilian, were impoverished; indeed, many had lost everything. As an historian, I am still struck by the extent of their losses. All faced such extraordinary challenges in rebuilding their commonwealth. It is no wonder that Southerners in particular find in those four years the defining part of their history.

It is also no coincidence that Augusta Military Academy started modestly with

day students and boarders, but over time, flourished. The postwar period of the late nineteenth century gave rise to the phenomenon of the Confederate Lost Cause. Those veterans who survived the carnage saw in their service many positive qualities that they sought to extend to the next generation. In an effort to keep alive the sacrifice Confederate soldiers made, these individuals focused on the importance of honor, duty, valor, and commitment to something greater than oneself. In some ways, the Confederacy's defeat served to inspire Southerners to embrace their Lost Cause and what it signified: devotion to duty and to one's comrade-in-arms. Historians see roots of this philosophy in the antebellum period, but it became most prominent in the aftermath of Appomattox.

#### Professor Roller's vision

"Perhaps the most central and enduring element of the [Confederate] Lost Cause was the firm connection in the minds of Southerners between [the] martial virtues [of] courage, patriotism, selflessness, and loyalty and moral rectitude." Whether he knew it or not, these ideas permeated Professor Roller's vision for AMA.

It is also worthy to note that Charles Roller decided to



Dr. Mary DeCredico,  
Reunion 2004

establish the school near the site of some of the most important engagements of the War: Stonewall Jackson's famous Shenandoah Valley campaign of 1862, the Battle of New Market, on May 15, 1864, where VMI cadets fought valiantly, and the Battle of Piedmont, an engagement fought June 4, 1864, very close to Ft. Defiance. While Jackson's exploits have garnered the lion's share of attention (it has been said his foot cavalry inspired Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's campaigns in North Africa), the clashes at New Market and Piedmont are quite significant.

#### **Old men, boys defend South**

As the Confederacy struggled to stem the tide of simultaneous advances against Atlanta in the West and Richmond in the East in the spring of 1864, Union General Ulysses S. Grant determined to hammer the South at other less conspicuous, but similarly significant venues. The breadbasket of the Confederate nation, the Shenandoah Valley, was part of that strategy. First at New Market, in May 1864, and later at Piedmont, in June, 1864, students, convalescents, old men and young boys were called upon to defend the Valley, and their homes. The Confederate commanders, John C. Breckinridge at New Market and John Imboden and W.C. "Grumble" Jones at Piedmont, probably blanched at committing such an untested (one could even call them rag-tag) force. Breckinridge was heard to say something that numerous commanders would have

while military discipline enjoins correct habits of living." Professor Roller's vision was passed on to his sons, **Thomas Roller and Charles S. Roller, Jr.**

It would be these sons who would oversee the expansion of the school and, in the words of their father, see to its "increase in the fair name it has enjoyed for the past 31 years." Under their guidance, Augusta men would don uniforms, the academic program would be strengthened and athletics would achieve new levels of achievement. Yet most importantly, the men who enrolled in the Augusta Military Academy from that time, 1905 on, were being imbued with the values Professor Roller held so dear: honor, duty, and service to one's classmates. AMA would send its graduates to the battlefields of Verdun, the Meuse, and Chateau-Thierry; to the beaches of Normandy, Anzio and Peleliu; to the frozen Chosen, and finally, to southeast Asia.

I confess that in this time of war, I ponder how AMA graduates would meet the challenges in Afghanistan and Iraq; after being here and knowing of your proud past, I have no doubt you would meet those challenges.

If the depression and war years were hard on AMA, the backlash of the Vietnam War was even worse. Men who enrolled in military schools across the country became fodder for the anti-war crusade. Suddenly, it must have appeared to those who attended Augusta Military Academy

## ***If the Depression and war years were hard on AMA, the backlash of Vietnam was even worse...***

echoed: "Put the boys in, and may God forgive me the order."

While the South prevailed at New Market, it was defeated at Piedmont. But the honor, courage, and dedication to duty that marked those brave Confederate soldiers were passed down to their children and grandchildren. It is not off the mark to say they laid the foundation of the military academies that would be established across the South in the aftermath of the war. It is possible that Professor Roller, as a veteran, wished to educate his young charges near the site of so many hard fought battles to encourage them to recommit themselves to duty and honor. Professor Roller, as others, was probably determined to honor the sacrifice of his Confederate brethren and to rebuild the South with an educated, well-disciplined and morally-upright new generation of leaders. (The fact that he became a Republican, the party of physical Reconstruction, speaks volumes.)

#### **Thomas and Charles Roller, Jr.**

As one proponent of military secondary and post-secondary education in the last nineteenth century wrote, "the benefits which a student derives from military training are moral, mental, and physical, and are valuable to the citizens as to the soldier. Military instruction develops the student morally by instilling principles of patriotism, courage, obedience to law and respect for lawful authority,

at that time, the values revered by their founders, were deemed out of touch with society. Declining enrollments, soaring costs and the general malaise that swept the country took its toll. As you know only too well, AMA was forced to close its doors in 1984: sadly, the oldest military academy in the commonwealth of Virginia was no more.

#### **Refuse to let Professor Roller's dream die**

But here you are today, savoring your time here, renewing old friendships, and contributing to AMA's legacy. One might deem that extraordinary. But when you survey the proud heritage of AMA, it is not. The values that inspired Professor Roller to establish the school resonated through the years. Indeed, the lessons you learned, the camaraderie you shared and the service you gave to your state and your country are a lasting legacy.

You refuse to let Professor Roller's dream expire. Instead, you demonstrate, through your participation and loyalty, that what you experienced here, whether for years or months, made a difference to you. That is why it is important to recognize you; that is why it is important to add the Class of 1984 to the long Augusta line. Finally, that is why the experiences you had and the commitment you demonstrate remain shining examples for this age of uncertainty.

I applaud your dedication and I salute your legacy.



# The Saturday Lunch



Starting at the top left and going clockwise: Phil Myers, '71, of Falls Church sounds Soupie to get the crowd into the gym; Garry Granger,

'71, President of the AMA Alumni Association, presides at the lunch; the Massanutton Military Academy Color Guard presents the colors; part of the crowd gathered for the luncheon; Sherry Lilley, back for a second year, sang *God Bless America* at the luncheon, and later sang *Amazing Grace* at the Founders Day ceremonies; led by a Virginia Military Institute piper, the lunch crowd is framed in the gym door.



## Ward family, Class of '54 to challenge other classes

The family of the late Parker Ward, '54, came back to the 2004 reunion, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his graduation from Augusta. In 1970, Parker became the first President of the AMA Alumni Association, but died soon after in the plane crash that killed the entire Marshall College football team.

Parker's wife, **Mary Plyde (Ward) Bell**, was back for the reunion with her husband, Tom Bell, and her children: Parker, Jr., Sharon Ward Glenn, Stephen, and Elizabeth Ward Bode. They attended the Thursday evening reception and were still there on Sunday morning. To quote Parker, Jr., "We all felt like we were with family."

And indeed, they were! They integrated the Class of 1954 seamlessly. **Bob Harris, Ed Dullin, Tom Lassell, Ken Hoke** and others from '54 were with them morning, noon and night. At the same time, Mary Plyde was renewing old friendships and making new friends with her warm and capturing smile.

When it was time to go, an idea began to form.

How could the Ward family and the Class of '54 do something for Augusta? Looking at AMA's "Wish List", they decided that the Ward family and the Class of 1954 would make the lease payments on the AMA Alumni House/ Museum over the next year.

Parker, Jr. sent the first \$100 check to the United Pentecostal Church, owners of the AMA buildings and grounds. Other members of his family will pay for subsequent months, then members of the Class of '54 will fulfill the monthly obligation until the 2005 reunion rolls around.

"Then," says '54 Class Agent Hoke, "we will challenge the Class of 1955 to pick up the responsibility for the next year, and hope that they will offer a similar challenge to the Class of 1956 a year later."

AMA Alumni Association President **Garry Granger, '71**, said that this commitment is something that other classes should emulate. "What better way to respect the memory of



**THE WARD FAMILY** - Above, at the Friday Awards Banquet. L. to r., Parker Ward, Jr., Sharon Ward Glenn, Mary Plyde (Ward) Bell, Stephen Ward, Tom Bell, and Elizabeth Ward Bode. Below, the family at the Front Arch with AMA's motto *Ad Astra per Aspera* bestowing a silent benediction on this incredibly beautiful family.



Parker than to have his name associated with the AMA Museum which honors him and so many other Augusta heroes. Something for other classes to think about!"



## ***They do it all! Josephson, Studer, and Zinkhan get a special reunion thank you***

At the Friday Awards Banquet, three volunteers at the AMA Alumni House/Museum were awarded a plaque which will hang in the museum for all to see, a plaque thanking this selfless trio for all they do. **Sergeant Joe Josephson, Sergeant Don Studer and Ben Zinkhan, '60**, have their names inscribed on the award for never failing to do what needs to be done around the AMA Alumni House/Museum.

In presenting the plaque, **Bob Bradford, '50**, said, "These are the fellows who paint when something needs painting, mow when something need to be mown, plant when there is something to plant... They create the displays you see at the museum and they hang the pictures. They keep the place pristine and we are in their debt every single day."

Shown above, Studer accepts the plaque while Zinkhan waits to speak. Josephson could not attend the dinner.



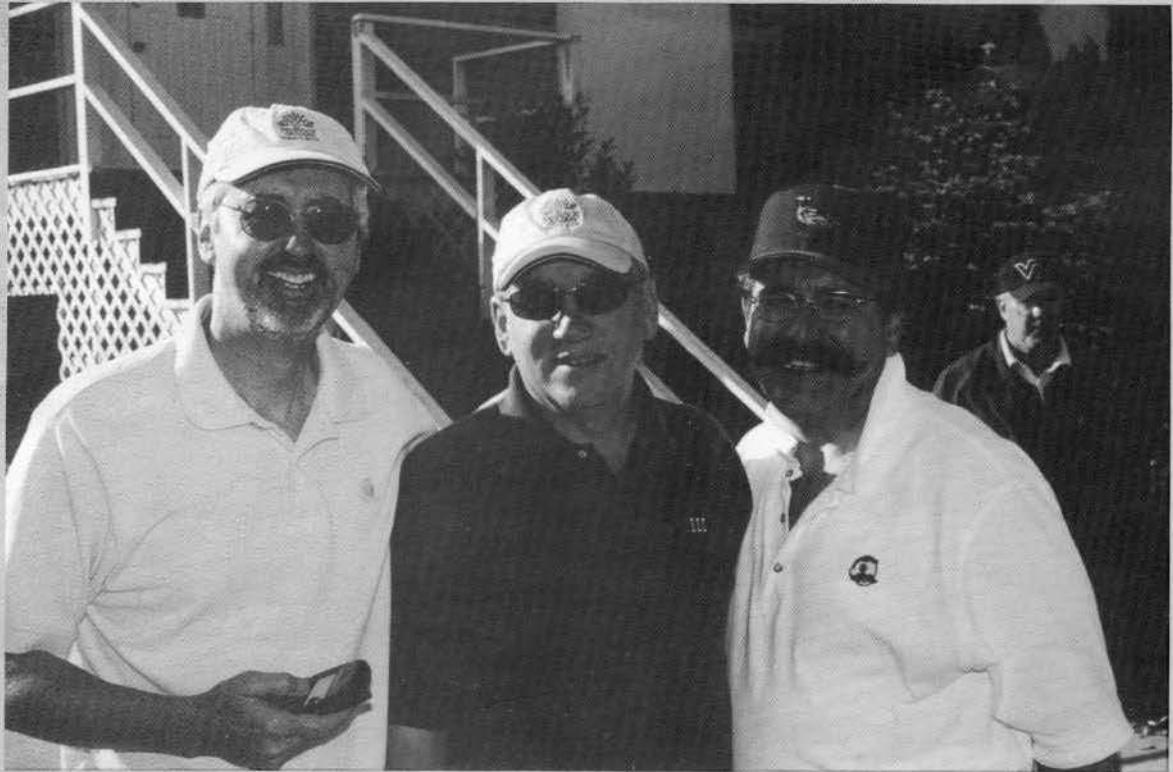
## **\$7,000... and counting!**

For the seventh consecutive year, the Tower of Power has raised more than \$1,000 during the annual reunion. Beginning in 1998, **Frank Williamson, '60**, has sold tickets for bottles of Virginia Gentleman with one special bottle held for the last two alumni in a replica of the AMA tower.

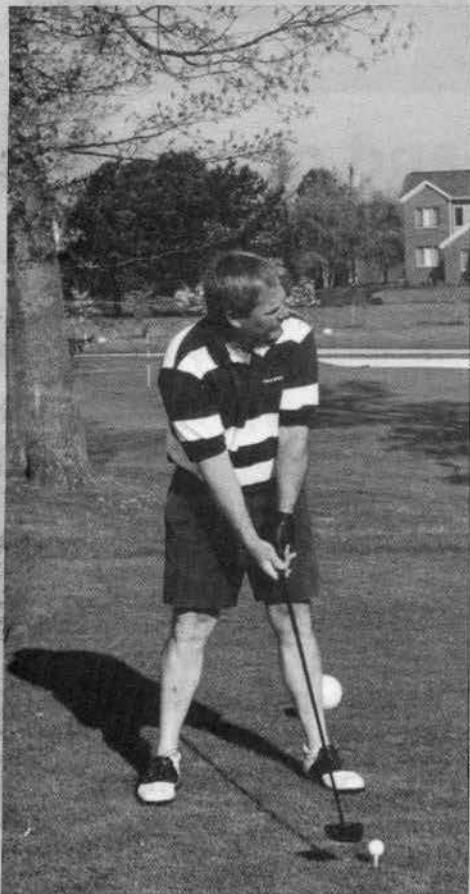
This year at Reunion 2004, the Tower of Power earned \$1,059 for the AMA Alumni Foundation.

## **PARENTAL PRIDE**

In the next *Bayonet*, we will begin a new feature: **Parental Pride**. We invite AMA alumni to tell us about their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Go ahead: brag a little! Tell us about your offspring or grandkids as **Tommy Clements, '50**, did in **Class Notes** (page 3). Your classmates and friends look forward to reading about those wonderful kids and grandchildren of yours in the next *Bayonet*!



Above, Mickey Toms, '67, of Charlottesville, the Golf Chairman; Bruce Orenstein, '69, of Laurel, MD; Nicky Syropoulos, '69, of Baltimore; and in Virginia Tech cap, Scott Wooten, '66, of Mount Solon. Below, left, George Richardson, '64, of Newport News ready to tee off. He had the longest drive of the day; center, Paul Karch, '79, of Deerfield Beach, FL puts while Doug Pennock, '72, of San Juan, Puerto Rico tends the pin; right, Jess Porter, '64, of Appalachia, VA sends his ball down the fairway.



Raises \$1,000 for AMA

# Valley provides great weather for 2004 AMA Open Golf Tournament

By Mickey Toms,  
Class of '67

Quality over quantity marked the fourth annual AMA Golf Open played during Reunion 2004. Five teams battled and stroked themselves to the most competitive contest in the Open's short history.

Some new teams and some familiar teams mixed it up over 18 holes at the Staunton Country Club on a picture perfect April morning on a wonderfully manicured course.

Playing a near perfect round (-3) with three birdies and no bogeys, Team Skunk, led by **Bobby Rhea, '47, Tom Lassell, '54, Scott Wooten, '66, and Mickey Toms, '67**, got skunked as they won the Last Place Trophy even though Scott had a nifty shot to win Closest to the Pin.

Close ahead at four under was Team "Bad Boyz," – **Garry Granger, '71, Paul Karch, '79, Doug Pennock, '71, and Tom "Mr. Bad" DelValle, '71**. Leading the pack at five under was the Maryland-Waynesboro "Mafia" with **Nicky Syropoulos, '69, Bruce Orenstein, '69, Paul Poluito, '73, and a ringer, Tom "No Help" Austin**. Paul did manage to take away hardware for Longest Putt to the Hole.

Deadly, but coming up short, was "Hermanos Bravados" with a gaming six under. **Al "Senor Suave" Zayas, '72, Ron "Scootch" Melcher, '71, and Ray "Yes, I said Ray" Marcantoni, '69**, played well.

But the old "Mountain Men" of **Jesse "Bullseye" Porter, '64, Pete "There's not a shot I don't take" Lampman, '65, and George "Howitzer" Richardson, '64**, calmly brought in an impressive ten under par. George set the pace early for the longest drive and no one challenged.

Since most of us had **Colonel Hoover** for math, reviewing the scorecards was out of the question (Got that, man?). We were just happy that everyone had a card and



Some of the golfers even showed up in time for a photo before the shotgun start.

made the effort to add, subtract, and cheat honestly by the Cadet Code.

Thanks to Al Zayas, Garry Granger, the Carnival Cruise-line in Miami, Lewie (*whereareyou?*) Kennett, '72, Mickey Toms, and the Charlottesville Golf Center for help with prizes. Thanks to Mark Marshall, Golf Pro, and Debbie Ryder for the lunches and to the staff of the Staunton Country Club for being such patient and professional hosts.

Remember: the **last weekend in April for the next two years!** We hope everyone had some fun, so plan NOW to join us next year. We have a new TEAM CHAMPION and some true competition for next year's AMA Open. Best of all, we got to see good friends, and raised \$1,000 for the **AMA Foundation!**

ANYONE is eligible to play in the AMA Open – wives, significant others, friends, etc., and anyone can provide us with gifts for the players: golf balls, and things like that. They can be forwarded to: Mitchell "Mickey" Toms, AMA GOLF OPEN 2005, 5597 Brownsville Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903.

Item pickup can be arranged within reason and the discretion of the driver!

# Snyder, Studer elected to alumni board

Luke Snyder, '60, and Sergeant Don Studer were elected to the Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association Board of Directors at the annual membership meeting on 24 April during Reunion 2004.

## **Master Sergeant Donald Studer**

Don Studer is a native of Chicago. He entered the Marine Corps in 1958 and saw service on Okinawa. After three years, he left the Corps. In 1964, he joined the US Army and served in both the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions in Germany.

In 1968, he was assigned to Panama and then to Vietnam with the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. In 1969, Sergeant First Class Don Studer came to Fort Defiance as a Junior ROTC Instructor at AMA. He coached the rifle team and became a Virginia Hunter Education Instructor and an NRA rifle and pistol instructor.

In 1972, he went back to Vietnam where he was stationed in Bien Hoa Province. In 1973, he was assigned to the General Douglas MacArthur Military Academy in New Jersey until that school closed. He was then reassigned to AMA and promoted to master sergeant.

In 1979, Sergeant Studer returned to Panama as the first sergeant of a combat support company. In 1981, he retired to become Assistant Commandant of Cadets at Augusta, a position he held until the school closed in January of 1984. He also resumed his duties as rifle team coach.

Studer lives in Waynesboro and has been volunteering at the AMA Alumni House/Museum since its inception. In 2001, the AMA Alumni Association presented Don with the AMA Alumni Medal for extraordinary service to AMA. At Reunion 2004, a specially struck plaque was awarded Studer, Sergeant Joe Josephson and Ben Zinkhan, '60, for their continuing service to AMA.

## **James Luther "Luke" Snyder, II**

Luke Snyder lives in Charlotte with Anne, his wife of 37 years, and they have two sons and a daughter, none yet married. He attended AMA for seven years arriving on campus in 1953 and was in Band Company for all but one year, ending up as Band Company Commander his senior year.

Luke graduated from Campbell University in 1965. Poor eyesight denied him military service and he went to work for Coca Cola where he stayed for 15 years before going into business for himself restoring and servicing British sports cars.

After 12 years in that business, he sold his company and went to work for a large hardware concern "*where I really started to enjoy working.*" After retiring there as manager of customer services, he purchased rental and investment properties in the mountains of North Carolina.

He says that the most rewarding things in his life are his family and his 25 year association with the Boy Scouts of America. Luke is the father of two Eagle Scouts and a Girl Scout having served in the Cub Scout program as a Den Leader and in the Boy Scouts as Assistant Scoutmaster, Scoutmaster, District Unit Commissioner and District Chairman of Cub Scouts. He is a Silver Beaver recipient and a James E. West Fellow. He is now serving on the Mecklenberg Boy Scout Endowment Committee and is the Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 34.

He says that every part of his life "*reflects on some aspect of my time at AMA... I wish I had realized that earlier in my life.*"



Luke Snyder, '60, and Anne at Reunion 2004



Sergeant Donald Studer

# Council, Holt, Quarles 2004 medalists

Three AMA alumni from the Classes of 1935, 1949 and 1960 received the 2004 AMA Alumni Medals at the Awards Banquet during Reunion 2004.

**Jim Council, '49,** was honored for his unparalleled assistance year after year with registrations at annual reunions.

**George Holt, '60,** received a medal in gratitude for providing the very paper that *The Bayonet* is printed on.

**Julian Quarles, '35,** received a tribute for all the time he has given the AMA Museum and the children who visit there.

The first AMA Alumni Medals were awarded in 1999 after having been approved by the Board of Directors in 1998. The idea for the annual medals came from **Harry Campbell, '70.** Each year, nominations are invited from AMA alumni and friends, and a committee appointed by the Alumni Association President makes the final determinations.

Medals are awarded to individuals who have done some special thing for AMA or may have, with a series of smaller contributions, done a great service to AMA. The medals can be presented to AMA alumni, faculty members, or to any good friend of AMA whether or not he or she attended AMA.

In six years, 33 medals have been presented.

Members of the 2004 Medals Committee were **Bob Bradford, '50,** who served as chairman, **Gary Nicholson, '70,** **Garry Granger, '71,** **John Hash, '70,** **Frank Williamson, '60,** and **Rod Willey, '51.** Bradford presented the medals to the 2004 honorees.



JIM COUNCILL thanks his fellow alumni for the AMA Alumni Medal.



STANDING OVATION - Julian Quarles, '35, center, comes forward to receive his 2004 AMA Alumni Medal as fellow alumni and guests rise to salute him.



GEORGE HOLT responds after receiving the 2004 AMA Alumni Medal at the Awards Banquet during Reunion 2004.



**Jim Councill, '49**

snacks at each reunion. Many alumni have been the successful bidders on a beautiful hand made quilt that Mary Alice makes for the Silent Auction.

Could we have a reunion without these two? Well, we don't want to find out! And though they have now moved to an Air Force Village complex in San Antonio, they are here again at this reunion doing what they do best.

Jim has been a strong supporter of the VMI Scholarship program and our continued close association with VMI.

The 2004 AMA Alumni Medal goes to this member of the Class of 1949, Jim Councill, who we hope will share this with his wife, Mary Alice.

**James W. Councill, '49**, is a retired Air Force colonel who came to his first AMA reunion in the '80's. He and his wife took an immediate interest in the annual reunions, and his enthusiasm was marked by his election to the AMA Alumni Association Board of Directors soon afterward.

Though he lived in Florida, Jim would travel back to Virginia for almost every AMA Alumni Association Board meeting.

In addition, he and Mary Alice have volunteered to keep the AMA Alumni House/Museum open for a weekend.

They have an extensive scrapbook of photos from AMA reunions over the years. And they make significant financial contributions every single year.

When reunion attendees registered, this former cadet and probably his wife were there helping with the registration process.

Mary Alice is ever busy in the Hospitality Tent helping with drinks and



**Jim Councill,  
1949 Recall**

**Ad Astra per Aspera**

George Holt, '60, has been in the printing business for the past 42 years, and counting.

He is a charter member of the Roller Society having pledged to leave something for AMA when he is no longer here, and we hope we will not collect for many, many years.

He renews his commitment to the President's Council every year without fail.

He has volunteered at the museum where he has taken a shift.

He is an engaged and active member of the AMA Alumni Association Board of Directors.

And for the past several years, he has made a major contribution to us by providing the very paper on which *The Bayonet* is printed.

Each time an issue is ready to go to press, Sue Messerley at Mid Valley Press in Verona places a call to Burlington,

North Carolina to report on how many issues will be printed.



George Holt,  
1960 Recall

Within a matter of days, the requisite supply of paper arrives in Verona, and your newsletter goes on the press.

The savings to the Foundation amount to many thousands of dollars over the years that George has made this contribution.

A remarkable and unique benefaction to the process of keeping us in touch with each other.

A 2004 AMA Alumni Medal goes to this member of the Class of 1960 - George Holt.



**George H. Holt, '60**

**Ad Astra per Aspera**

Julian Quarles, '35, is a hero of World War Two who has come back to the Valley after a long and distinguished career as a corporate attorney in Miami.

He has volunteered repeatedly at the museum.

When school kids want to meet with someone who can tell them what it was like in the great World War II, this honored veteran makes himself available for their questions.

Julian has contributed his time -- yes -- and he has contributed financially.

He has been of great assistance in locating lost alumni from his era.



**Julian Quarles  
1935 Recall**

He helped assemble the World War II display at the AMA Museum. And he has the credentials to have taken this responsibility: Silver Star with an oak leaf cluster... Bronze Star...

POW Medal... Purple Heart... Combat Infantryman's Badge. A captain in World War II, Julian Quarles retired from the AUS with the rank of full colonel.

At AMA... he was President of the Student Body and Captain of Company B.

And he was a champion boxer for the blue and white.

If you need him... he's always there.

At a time in his life when he could be reflecting on his exciting life of accomplishments, Julian is still looking ahead and figuring out new ways to help his *alma mater*.

The 2004 AMA Alumni Medal goes to this member of the Class of 1935 - Julian Quarles.



**Julian Quarles, '35**

**Ad Astra per Aspera**

# Three earn AMA Legacy Scholarships

Three direct descendants of Augusta Military Academy alumni were recipients of the 2004 AMA Legacy Scholarships awarded during Reunion 2004.

The three who received the scholarship awards of \$2,000 each are Fallon Abel, granddaughter of Paul Bailey, '18; John Elliott Arthur, VI, son of John Elliott Arthur, V, '75, and Daniel Sagmiller, grandson of Edgar Stokes Daniels, Jr., '49. All three are high school seniors who will be entering college for the first time in the fall.

Presenting the scholarships, Chairman Bruce Orenstein, '69, said that this year's winners were the most qualified he had ever seen ranging from a 16 year old who is off to college to a young man following his Dad's footsteps to VMI to the first violinist in his high school orchestra. Scholarships go to the direct descendants of AMA alumni. Applications are judged by an outside educator unaffiliated with AMA.

*Profiles of  
the 2004  
winners  
on the  
next  
three  
pages.*



John Arthur thanks AMA alumni for his scholarship.



Scholarship Chairman Bruce Orenstein, '69, presents a \$2,000 scholarship to 16 year old Fallon Abel at the Awards Banquet during Reunion 2004.



Megan Spigle, daughter of the late Mark Spigle, '74, and winner of an AMA Legacy Scholarship last year, returns to thank AMA for compiling stories of her Dad's life as a cadet.

At far left, Cadet Patrick Tangonan, VMI, Class of 2006, recipient of an AMA/VMI Scholarship. Near left, Laura Zinkhan, daughter of Joyce and Ben Zinkhan, '60. Joyce was back to tell how her AMA Legacy Scholarship helped her.

## Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association 2004 Legacy Scholarship Recipient *Fallon Abel*

*Fallon is the granddaughter of Paul Bailey, AMA graduate of 1918. She is only sixteen and is completing her sophomore year in high school this year. As a result of her completing all the major requirements for her high school diploma while maintaining a 4.00 grade point average in addition to several Honors courses, Fallon finds herself in need of intellectual challenge that high school can no longer provide. But there are not too many universities that offer admission at such an early age.*

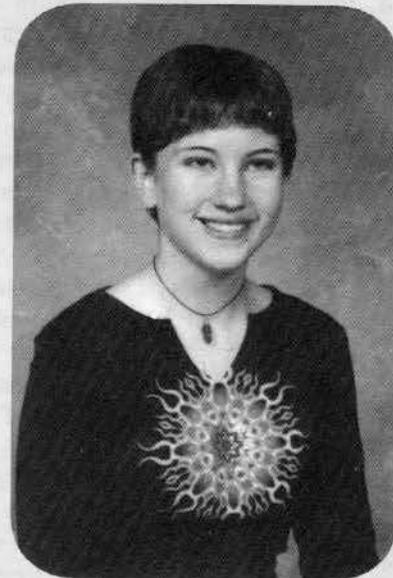
*However, Fallon has been accepted to Bard College in Massachusetts and Mary Baldwin College in Staunton and will be attending one of them in the fall.*

*One's first impression of Fallon is that she must be some kind of "intellectual geek". However, this is far from true. In addition to her superior intellect, Fallon is one of the most well rounded individuals you will ever encounter. She has been involved with a musical theater group since the age of five and has been involved in seven productions. She is an accomplished pianist and has been taking lessons since age four and has been taking ballet and tap dancing lessons for eight years.*

*Music and dance have only taken up part of her spare time as Fallon has been active in the Girl Scouts and 4H Clubs since 1993. Let's not forget about her sports interests of high school volleyball and Ski Club.*

*The most interesting thing about Fallon is that all the above mentioned activities are not her real passion. Fallon is a passionate reader and aspires to be a professional writer. She has been a major contributor to her high school newspaper and a regular guest writer for her hometown newspaper, "The Times News". She won first place in the Pennsylvania Associated Press Journalism Competition.*

*We at the AMA Alumni Association would be proud and honored to part of this remarkable young lady's continued success. Keep your eyes on this lady as we will be hearing about her in the future.*



**Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation  
2004 Legacy Scholarship Recipient  
*John Elliott Arthur, VI***

*John is the son of John Elliott Arthur V who attended AMA from 1971 until 1975.*

*John will graduate from Western Branch High School in Chesapeake, Virginia with a grade point average of 3.5.*

*He will be following in his father's footsteps when he attends Virginia Military Institute this fall. He plans to major in political science and hopes for a commission in the Army with a career in Special Forces.*

*John is a multi-talented individual. He is an accomplished cellist having playing in his high school orchestra, a four year high school tennis player, a four year member of the German Club, Vice President of the Jolliff Woods Junior Civic League, a member of the National Honor Society for the past two years, a member of the Future Business Leaders of America and a Youth in Government participant.*

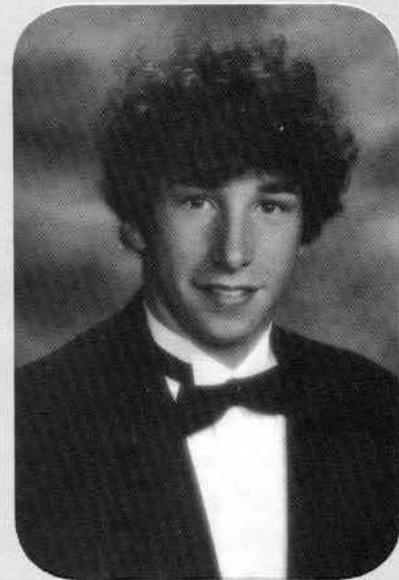
*His community involvement includes participation in his church youth group where he assisted several Oasis Ministries canned food drives, and participated with International Operation SHOEBOX to gather gifts for the needy.*

*He also coordinated fundraising initiatives for the Justin Thatcher Bone Marrow Foundation.*

*His latest community event involved his participation in the "Tour de Cure," a 100 mile bike ride to raise money for the American Diabetes Association. John also had been a volunteer chauffeur for a local blind couple these past two years.*

*VMI has a special place in AMA's history. John's accomplishments are a tribute to his family.*

*He is a most worthy representative of what AMA stands for and is a worthy recipient of a Legacy Scholarship.*



## Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association 2004 Legacy Scholarship Recipient *Daniel Sagmiller*

*Daniel is the grandson of Edgar Stokes Daniels, Jr., AMA class of 1949. Daniel will be graduating from Glenelg High School in Glenelg, Maryland with a grade point average of 3.6. He will be attending The Citadel in the fall, where he hopes to major in electrical engineering. He also has aspirations of serving in the military as a member of the Special Forces.*

*Daniel is a very versatile individual. He is an accomplished violinist. He is the first violinist in his high school orchestra. This orchestra is renowned within the State of Maryland and has performed all across the region. Additionally, Daniel is a star member and co-captain of the Glenleg Track and Field Team. He has run in both the indoor and outdoor seasons. He is the current county champion in the 55 meter High Hurdles. Daniel has been both a leader on the team as well as an unofficial coach, teaching younger runners the technical aspects of his demanding specialty.*

*Daniel has been an active member of the Christian Service Brigade since he was eight years old. The CSB is an organization very similar to the Boy Scouts. He has attained a leadership role, responsible for boys ages 13-17. He acts as a counselor to younger boys during summer camps.*

*Daniel has also been involved in politics as a representative in the Maryland Boy's State. He was elected to the House of Delegates in the General Assembly of this organization. He participated in debates of various bills before the State General Assembly.*

*His volunteer work includes youth baseball umpiring and was awarded "The First Year Umpire Award" in the Howard County Youth Program at the age of 13. He has also worked at Larriland Farm during the summers as a cashier, orchard worker and field supervisor with responsibilities of locking buildings and gates at close of business.*

*Daniel is a worthy recipient of the AMA Legacy Scholarship as his aspirations at The Citadel and the military are a good fit with Augusta Military Academy's foundation and legacy.*



10th anniversary of program

# The philosophy of the AMA Legacy Scholarship program

The AMA Legacy Scholarship program is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. First authorized by the AMA Alumni Association Board in 1994, the annual grants now fall under the auspices of the AMA Alumni Foundation to which contributions are tax deductible.

Beginning with a single \$1,000 stipend, the program offered three \$2,000 scholarships in 2003 and 2004. With the expected growth in Foundation scholarship monies, it is anticipated that there will be more scholarships given annually, each with higher dollar figures.

The direct descendants of AMA alumni, age 25 or less, are eligible for the scholarships which are paid directly to the institutions of higher learning (past the high school level) attended by the recipient. A direct descendant can be a child, grandchild, great-grandchild, etc., of an AMA alumnus whether adopted, step or natural children. The same individual may receive awards in no more than two years. An "institution of higher learning" can be an accredited college or trade school.

Applications are judged by an outside educator who has no affiliation with AMA. The Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) organization and the IRS authorizes contributions to the scholarship fund to be tax deductible.

Scholarship Chairman **Bruce Orenstein**, '69, has suggested changes in the program which were approved in principle by the Foundation at its 25 April meeting in

Staunton. First, the scholarship application form will be greatly simplified. *"We ask for more on our application than do other major donors who give larger grants than we do,"* he says. *"This year, we had four times as many requests for applications as we had actual applications helping to demonstrate the difficulty people have in completing our complicated form."*

At its 2003 annual meeting, the Foundation trustees decided to give a heavier emphasis to high school seniors who were entering college for the first time. *"The rationale was that it is unfair to expect a high school senior to compete fairly with a college junior on the essay portion of the application,"* Orenstein says. *"With the simplification of the application, this concern may be met so that we can give consideration to all applicants whether or not they are high school seniors."* As it turned out, all the 2004 scholarship recipients were high school seniors.

Orenstein also believes that at least one scholarship each year should be given on some basis other than grades alone. *"It is not uncommon to have several candidates who have earned 4.0 all the way through, and we do need to continue rewarding those qualities. But there are other deserving young women and young men who may not have the top grades, but who represent the Augusta ideal in other significant ways. Starting in 2005, we hope to award at least one 'character' scholarship each year."*

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**DOGWOOD** - Under a clear and beautiful Shenandoah Valley sky, the AMA gym welcomes Spring with a dogwood tree, the Virginia State Flower, in full bloom during Reunion 2004.



# Silent Auction nets \$3,600

A week at a Florida beachfront condo donated by **Tommy Clements**, '50, brought top dollar in the Reunion 2004 Silent Auction. **Frank Williamson**, '60, paid \$600 for the seven day stay at Perdido Key to help run up the total. **Duke Fancher**, '58, paid \$310 for a Remington rolling block military rifle that had been donated by **Chuck Pine**, '49. Fancher in turn donated the rifle to the AMA Museum (photo on facing page).

Auction Chairman **Dave Conrad**, '59, thanked those who contributed things for the auction and those who made purchases. "This is such an easy way for all of us to make money for AMA," he said.

There were a number of truisms which were reproved at the auction. First, those who have said, "Save your Confederate money" had the right idea. Among the host of contributions by **Ed Chauncey**, '49, were a Confederate 25 cent piece, a dollar bill, and currency worth a dollar and a half. Williamson paid \$35 for the quarter, **Phil Wharton**, '63, bought the dollar bill for \$40, and the \$1.50 bill went to **Joe Morrow**, '64, for \$50.

Chauncey contributed Henry's Pirky's 1737 will to the AMA Museum. Pirky was a resident of Augusta County and Chauncey says "this is a very rare document."

An Andrew Wyeth painting of Quaker ladies given by Chauncey went to **Keith Sterling**, '76, for \$57 while a wild turkey print was purchased by **Marge (Dr. Boots, '45) Solan** for \$80. Dr. Solan picked up a painting of a large mouth bass for \$51 and an antique picture dating from 1830 for \$50. **Clyde Ramsey**, '49, took a Chauncey-donated World War II observer's ribbon for \$25 while **Gary Nicholson**, '70, bought three pictures of labs for \$25 each. **Gordon Metz**, '68, got a wooden duck decoy for \$100 and **Steve Matton**, '67, paid \$35 for a cowboy on horseback, both donated by Chauncey.

**Liz Hash (Mrs. John, '75)** laid out \$25 for a red fox picture while **Bob Harris**, '54, paid \$130 for a botanical print. A bald eagle print raised \$55 from **John Bell**, '54, while Stuart Solan bought a Chauncey picture for \$100. Ramsey donated two Frederic Remington pieces, both of which went to **Sergio Fernandez**, '56, for \$60 and \$150. **Robbie Rhodes**, '63, contributed a master sergeant's chevron which **Dwight Nitz**, '74, picked up for \$25 while Nicholson paid \$100 for a piece of art donated by **Bob Ash**, '64. Conrad bought

a large candle which had been offered by **Jim Councill**, '49, for \$30 and Ramsey bought for \$20 a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary American Legion item which had been contributed by Conrad. Williamson successfully bid on a 1964 photograph of Annapolis given by the Conrads; he paid \$75 for it. A Shakespeare fly rod and case given by **Lloyd Eastlack**, '59, was snapped up by **Bill Scarborough**, '69, for \$100.

**Dr. Richard Whittaker**, '72, went back to Maine with two paintings donated by Fernandez having paid \$30 and \$20 for them. **Don Schwebel**, '75, got a bottle of Hennessy cognac for \$25 and **Joyce (Mrs. Ben, '60) Zinkhan** purchased for \$25 an angel made by **Kathy (Mrs. Bob, '54) Harris**. **Cade Holliday**, '48, donated some wonderful peanut brittle for which **Ed Kotz**, '63, happily paid \$20 while Sterling got his for \$12.

A Lee picture, one of many valuable items given by Civil War expert Nitz, brought \$70 paid by Chauncey who also paid \$50 for a Nitz-donated Civil War book, \$20 for a Civil War era newspaper, \$70 for a Jackson picture, \$35 for a picture of Mosby, and \$25 for a picture titled *The Loneliness of Command*.

**Al Zayas**, '72, paid \$50 for Civil War bullets given by Nitz, **Don Studer** got a Civil War book for \$10 and four others for \$15, and **Marge Solan** paid \$30 for a box of



**IMPATIENTLY WAITING** - The hall outside the PX was filled with hopeful bidders after the bidding closed.



**CHECKING IT OUT** - John Bell, '54, looks over a Silent Auction item at Reunion 2004.

Civil War buttons. Dr. Solan got a Zouave painting given by Nitz for just \$10 and a picture of the gatehouse at Gettysburg also for \$10. Marge Solan paid \$30 for a *We still love you, General Lee*, offered by Nitz while Dr. Solan bought another picture for \$30 and paid \$76 for a Navy cutlass.

Boots also picked up another Nitz contribution, a Confederate watch and knife set for \$55. Ramsey paid \$12 for some reference books and Nicholson put out \$100 for a Crimean War print from the Nitz collection.

**Brenda Metz (Mrs. Gordon, '68)** bought two Nitz prints for \$10 each while **Bill McOwen, '44**, took a dragoon sabre back to Cincinnati for \$40 and a portable TV for only \$10.



**FULL HOUSE -** The Silent Auction items were on display for all to see on Friday and Saturday.

Matton got a print of a Civil War bugler for \$15 and of the *Monitor* and the *Merrimack* for \$30. Kotz picked up a Nitz picture for \$35 while **Don Russell, '60**, paid \$50 for eight Minie balls. Liz Hash, Keith Sterling and **Mickey Toms, '67**, each paid \$10 for wine donated by **Frank Spencer, '49**, and Ramsey bought his for \$20. Wharton bought an AMA afghan donated by **Gerri (Mrs. Steve, '70) Trent** for \$40 and Ramsey had the high bid of \$30 on a sewing machine storage unit donated by Zinkhan.

Morrow got some Civil War books for \$25, Ramsey purchased a desk set for \$30, Schwebel went home with some Irish Creme for just over \$25 and Sterling got a leather tote bag for \$25. Wharton had the winning bid of \$25 on assorted stories of the Southland, Zayas picked up a flag from World War One for \$60 and Chauncey bought a garment bag for \$28.

All in all, a successful venture. "When we have good items in the Silent Auction, we always do well," said Conrad. "There was some confusion after bids had closed but we won't have any of those problems next year."

Conrad asks that people now start thinking about what they can give to the 2005 auction. "It is so very true that one person's trash is another's treasure," he says. "You never know what will strike someone's fancy. If it was valuable to you once upon a time, chances are that it will be valuable to someone now."

See you next year!

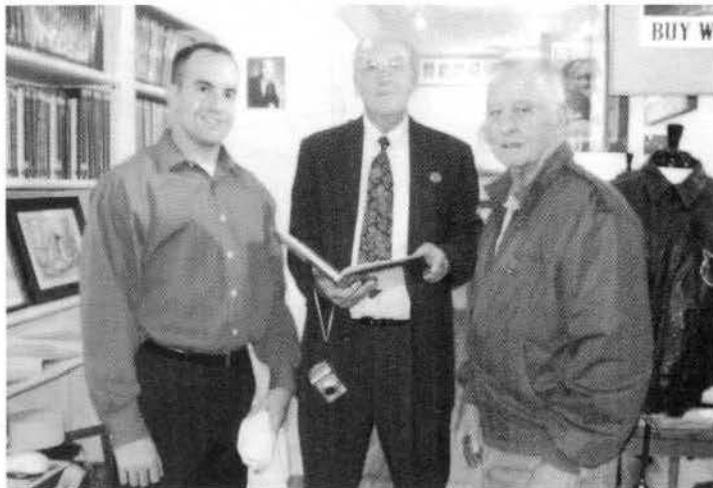
## New museum acquisition

Shown at right, this Remington rolling block military rifle was donated to the Silent Auction by **Chuck Pine, '49**. **Duke Fancher, '58**, had the winning bid on the weapon and he then donated it to the AMA Museum.

This model rifle was manufactured between 1867 and 1902 and was the gun carried by Augusta Military Academy cadets at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

When you next visit the museum, compare the weight and length to this rifle to the one that you carried at AMA.

Thanks, Chuck and Duke, for enabling us to have this historic piece while helping to make some money for the Silent Auction.



**IN THE MUSEUM -** Lawrence Smoot, '58, Neil Smoot, father of Richard Smoot, '52, and Master Sergeant Joe Josephson during the Smoots visit.



**IN THE BOOKS -** David Huffman, '64, checks through *Recalls* from his era while Chuck Savedge looks on from the wall behind. The Museum has every yearbook from early 1900's through 1976, plus 1981.



Above, VMI Cadet Robert Wichter of Bristol, TN, leads reunion goers into the gym for Saturday lunch. Below, Don Russell, '60, and Frankie check *Recalls* at Alumni House.



Top, the reception Thursday night at the Staunton Country Club. L. to r., Bob White, '60, Dr. Mary DeCredico, Assistant Dean at the US Naval Academy, and Millie and Bob McVey, '60, Navy folks all. Center, DRC in the gym. The food was fantastic! Bottom, Frank Spencer, '49, and Ida with Toni and Shawn Ogimachi, '77.



# Foundation Trustees stress use of income, not principal, to fund AMA and VMI Scholarships

At the annual meeting of trustees of the AMA Alumni Foundation, the decision to pay for scholarships out of interest earned was reaffirmed, continuing the journey on the road to financial stability and assured income.

**Goodloe Saunders, '57**, Chairman of the Foundation, presided at the meeting of trustees which accepted the volunteered services of **Jeff Schroeder, '67**, to set up a financial reporting system. The trustees also approved an audit of Foundation books and appointed Trustee **Rod Willey, '51**, to chair a new Audit Committee with **Bob Harris, '54**, and **Dr. Richard Whitaker, '72**, as audit committee members.

Following a discussion about the AMA Legacy Scholarship program at the annual membership meeting, Saunders appointed Trustee **Bob Bradford, '50**, and Scholarship Committee Chairman **Bruce Orenstein, '69**, to redraft and simplify the scholarship application form. The emphasis will be on larger scholarship amounts in future years. The trustees accepted the proposal put forward by Orenstein that one of the annual scholarships be granted based on character rather than strictly grades.

With the retirement from law practice of long time AMA Attorney **Bobby Rhea, '47**, a search has begun to find his replacement. The trustees acknowledged Rhea's long and distinguished commitment and thanked him for his services. Rhea has pledged to work with the newly selected attorney to bring him or her "up to speed."

The trustees approved the purchase and installation of a chair lift in the Alumni House/Museum. Said Saunders, "*Our alumni and volunteers are getting older and it is increasingly difficult for some of them to get up and down the stairs. It also is exhausting trying to get heavy boxes of paper and*



**AMA ALUMNI FOUNDATION TRUSTEES** - The AMA Alumni Foundation Board of Trustees met on 25 April at the Staunton Country Club. Pictured above, l. to r., Frank Williamson, '60; Gordon Metz, '68; Bob Bradford, '50; John Hash, '75, Secretary-Treasurer; Goodloe Saunders, '57, Chairman; Rod Willey, '51; Gary Nicholson, '70; Duke Fancher, '58; and Garry Granger, '71.

*other supplies up to the second floor. This chair lift will be a big help.*" The purchase price of a new chair lift, installed, was estimated at \$3,500, but an investigation is ongoing to see if a used unit with a maintenance agreement might serve the purpose.

Duke Fancher, '58, elected a trustee at the May 2003 meeting, officially took his seat at this year's meeting.

## Recent scholarship recipients write to say thank you to AMA

Two young people who have received scholarship aid from the AMA Alumni Foundation have written to express their thanks. Stephen Smith received help from the AMA VMI Scholarship Fund in 1987-91 and Meghan Spigle received an AMA Legacy Scholarship in both 2002 and 2003.

Smith writes that he graduated from VMI in 1991 and was commissioned an officer in the US Navy. He served aboard the *USS Thorn* (DD-988) from 1992 to 1995 as boarding officer during deployments in the Red Sea, the

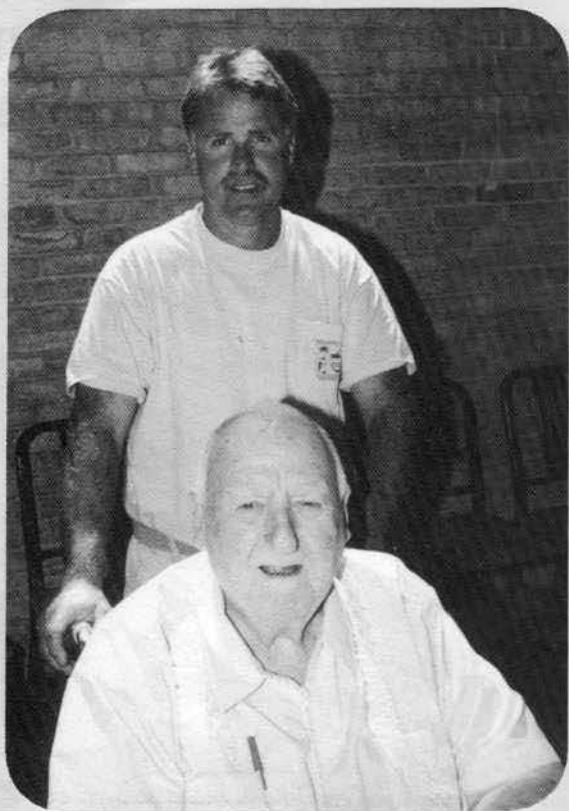
Mediterranean, and off the coast of Haiti. After the Navy, he attended William and Mary where he earned an MBA. Stephen now is a quality manager for a manufacturing firm in Newport News and lives in Williamsburg with his wife and two children.

*"I just want to let the AMA alumni know how much of a difference your scholarship meant to me,"* Smith wrote. *"The \$500 per year made a huge difference for my parents and for me and I will always be in your debt."*

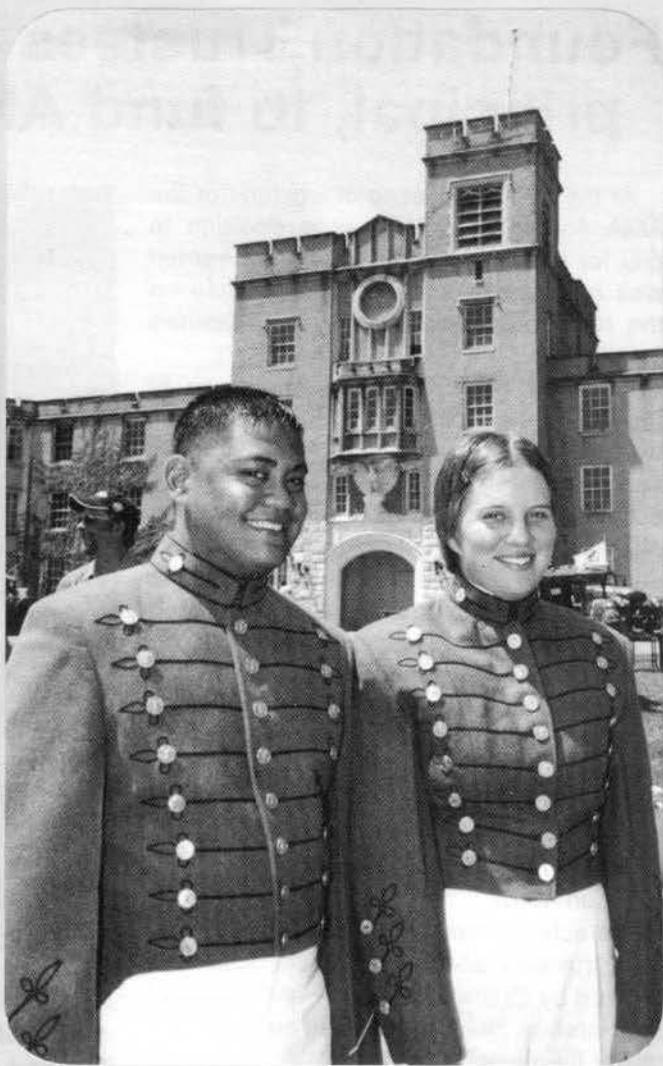
(continued on page 65)



Rich White, '84, remembers parade rest.



Father and son, Scott Leavel, '78, of Kill Devil Hills, NC with his Dad, V. P. Leavel, '39, of Richmond.



VMI Keydets Patrick Tangonan of Ewa Beach, Hawaii, the recipient of the AMA VMI Scholarship this year, and Laura Hash, daughter of Liz and John Hash, '75, of Fort Defiance. Great to see familiar uniforms back on campus!



Above, Megan Spigle, daughter of the late Mark Spigle, '74, tries on an AMA uniform. Right, Julian Quarles, '35, rear, and Steve Reech, '84, interviewed by students. Quarles and Reech represent the oldest and last class at the reunion.





## *The Friday trip to Walton's Mountain*

BEV AND FRANK WILLIAMSON, '60, hosted another fantastic trip on the reunion Friday. In spite of a little bus mixup, everyone had a grand time! Pictured, top, left, Evelyn and Cade Holliday, '48; top, center, Bev and Frank enjoy lunch; top, right, Mary Alice Councill (Mrs. Jim), '49 and Kathy Harris (Mrs. Bob), '54. Above, left, Frank and his AMA roommate, teammate, and dumb waiter, Bob White, '60; above, right, Bob Ash, '64, Jane and Phil Wharton, '63, Ed Dulin, '54, Bev, and Ken Eichner, '64. The happy wanderers had lunch at the Wintergreen Resort after visiting John Boy's neck of the woods.



Happy to be along, Tammy and Phil Bentley, '83. Glad to have you guys on the trip!



All photos on this page taken by Shirley & Don Elston, '44

TO EVERYONE WHO MADE REUNION 2004 SUCH A SUCCESS + First, to Frank Williamson, '60, and his band of merry men who every year make it look easy – which it definitely is NOT + Greg and Becky Douglas of the United Pentecostal Church who made things easy for us in spite of the fact that our reunion weekend began while one of their training sessions was just concluding + Dave Conrad, '59, for running another successful Silent Auction and to Chuck Pine, '49, Ed Chauncey, '49, and Bobby, and "Ruby" Rubush, '49, for helping out + Gary Nicholson, '70, for trying to do too much with too little help, and to his Sweet Sue + Ruby Bratton for staffing the PX + Chris Meek, '84, for his help in getting his classmates back for their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and for setting up and taking down chairs and tables in the gym + Phil Bentley, '83, who also helped with setup and takedown on Saturday and who cleaned up the drill field after the exhibition by Massanutten's drill team + Marc Mehler for bringing all the military vehicles to the campus once again + Mickey Toms, '67, for again arranging and supervising the golf tournament + Mike Kidd, '72, who fired the cannon on Saturday + Phil Myers, '71, for his always superb bugling + Rod Willey, '51, and Sue for the Thursday night reception at the Staunton Country Club, for arranging the Saturday lunch, and the Sunday meeting of the AMA Alumni Foundation

Trustees + Joyce Zinkhan for cookies and desserts in the Hospitality Room and the beans for the barbecue + Teachers from Stewart Middle School for bringing such well behaved youngsters to our museum + To everyone who participated in the knock out drill and particularly to the Massanutten drill-master who put cadets and alumni through their paces + Bob Harris, '54, for all the excellent printing he contributed to the reunion, and for not falling down in the drill competition! + The Holiday Inn staff, always eager to make our visits better than the last + Joe McCue, '66, for his Founders Day message + VMI Cadets Laura Hash, daughter of Liz and John, '75, and Pat Tangonan for judging the knock out drill + Dale Powers, '58, for delivering his grill, one more time + Tim Mizer and Doug Malcolm, friends of Ben Zinkhan, '60, for the countless ways they helped us get ready for the reunion, including the installation of lights at the Front Gate + Kim Adkins, our ever cheerful, resourceful and dedicated intern from Bridgewater College + Julian Quarles, '35, Paul Bratton, '48, and Bill McVey, '60, for making themselves available for student interviews during the reunion + A very special thanks to Don Studer, Joe Josephson and Ben Zinkhan for all they did, all they do, and all they will do + Mary Alice and Jim Councill, '49, for handling registration + Ida and Frank Spencer, '49, for helping in so many ways, particularly in hosting our VMI Scholarship recipient + Tommy Simmons, '53, the best bartender in the East and a Hokie fan at that! + Dr. Mary DeCredico, Assistant Dean at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis for her challenging comments at the Saturday luncheon and for spending the weekend with her new friends at

AMA + Sherry Lilley for her beautiful singing voice at Founders Day and at the Saturday lunch + The Roller Riders for adding color, variety and volume to the reunion weekend + Jerry Wildman, '57, for his many contributions to the professional look of the AMA Museum + Mac McInnis, '67, for his special barbecue sauce + Debbie Longmire and Bobby Chauncey for keeping the Hospitality Room fresh + Garry Granger, '71, for the Texas dry rub for the ribs and London broils + Jack White, '69, for the wonderful oysters + Colonel William Sedr for participating in the Class of '84 ceremonies + Gordon Metz, '69, and Bobby Rhea, '47, former AMA trustees, for helping with the ceremony + Liz Hash for coordinating so many reunion activities before, during and after the event + Jane Wharton (Mrs. Phil, '63) for compiling a scrapbook for 2003 AMA Legacy Scholarship winner Meghan Spigel + Bruce Hemp (Stuart Hall, '72) for her help with corsages and her toleration of the Roller Riders + Bob Hume, '63, for offering a luxury motor coach for the Friday trip to Walton's Mountain + Al Zayas, '72, for contributing golf give-aways + Don Studer for coordinating the drill exhibition and knock out drill + Dr. Don Elston, '44, and Shirley for taking pictures on the Friday trip + Mary Plyde (Ward) Bell, her husband, Tom, and

Mary and Parker Ward's children for being at the reunion from the first handshake and hug to the last, and for pledging to cover the lease on the AMA Alumni House/ Museum over the next year in concert with the Class of 1954 + Jim Councill, '49, George Holt, '60 and Julian Quarles, '35, for earning AMA Alumni Medals for 2004 + Colonel Tim Mannasmith for his attendance and participation

+ Rich Smail, '67, for photos of the Roller Riders trip through the Virginia and West Virginia countryside + Ambassador John "Jock" Shirley, '49, for altering long laid plans so that he could come back for his 55<sup>th</sup> reunion + Sue Messerley for the loving care she gives *The Bayonet* and for her caring so much about AMA + The following who each contributed \$167 to cover AMA Foundation expenses for a single day: Robert Ash, '64; Ed Kotz, '63; Ed Longmire, '68; Gene O'Neal, '69; and Jock Shirley, '49 + Stephen Matton, '67, who donated \$500 to cover three days of expenses + Garry Granger, '71, for his steadfast leadership of the AMA Alumni Association + Bruce Orenstein, '67, for handling the AMA Legacy Scholarship program with such aplomb + Cade Holliday, '48, for arranging to have a *Virginia Living* reporter on hand to cover our reunion + Duke Fancher, '58, Bob Harris, '54, and Jerry Wildman, '57, for spearheading the effort to produce certificates for the Class of 1984 + George Holt, '60, for lending us his portable PA system for the outside activities Saturday and the Awards Banquet on Friday night + Every alumnus of Augusta Military Academy who came to the reunion or thought about coming to the reunion, who sent warm thoughts our way whether or not they could be present, and who even now are making plans to attend Reunion 2005 to have what they will thereafter regard as *the best weekend of their lives!*

Thank  
you!

# June, July work days are planned at Alumni House

By Ed Chauncey, '49

An all-out effort will be made in June and July to reduce the number of school records needing review. In both months, the work days are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – June 21, 22 and 23 and July 19, 20 and 21.

Some alumni will be there all three days, and of course wives are invited too! By the way, the Holiday Inn has a special \$39 a night rate for people who are volunteering at AMA! You may want to spend part of a day taking visitors through our museum.

If you plan to come and help us, and we hope you will, please notify the Alumni House at one of the contact numbers at the bottom of this article.

We usually start around 9:00 or 9:30 AM. You will be given Review Procedures as a guideline. Each record is recorded and then reviewed for pertinent information to be set aside for a Final Review Committee.

So far, we have uncovered many documents – letters, news clippings, etc. – that have become a permanent part of our Alumni House collection. For the first time, we are discovering the "inner workings" of AMA and have learned that our founders spent an enormous amount of time in corresponding with our parents or guardians. Yet, they still had time for the day to day operations of the school and most important of all, the time to educate us!

You really don't want to let this opportunity pass you by. You will gain a true sense of the reasons behind the AMA Spirit that we all have.

So mark the dates on your calendar – June 21, 22 and 23, and July 19, 20 and 21. Make your reservations at the Holiday Inn. Let the AMA Alumni House know you'll be there to help us. Thanks so much!

Call the Alumni House/Museum at: 540/248-3007. Call the Holiday Inn, toll free, at: 1/800/932-9061. E-mail: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com

## House will need paint soon

Time marches on, and in another couple of years our Alumni House/Museum will need to be painted.

**Ben Zinkhan, '60**, reports that after seeking estimates, he believes it will cost about \$4,900 for the quality job that the old structure deserves. "We do touch up painting all the time," he says. "I repainted the front and back porches before the reunion and also did the handicapped ramp. You have to keep up with parts of the house that are exposed to the elements and get lots of foot traffic."

**Lewie Kennett, '72**, did some touch up painting on the tower last summer and Joyce Zinkhan repainted the rocking chairs on the front porch just before Reunion 2004.

"We want to have the paint job done professionally," says Ben. "We will be looking for funds or contributions of materials and labor in the next year or so."



**IN THE BARRACKS** - Box after box of AMA school records are stacked in Big Barracks. Ed Chauncey, '49, needs your help going through them. Story at left.



**IN THE TENT** - Tommy Simmons, '53, AMA's premier bartender, displays a special concoction donated by Dr. "Boots" Solan, '43 for the reunion. We had no after action reports on the lingering effects of "Hot Damn!"



**IN THE PX** - Gary Nicholson, '70, of Red Oak, VA and Ed Longmire, '69, from Reidsville, NC share a joke while manning the Holiday Inn branch of the AMA PX.

## **Virginia Living will do story on closed military prep schools in Virginia**

During Reunion 2004, a reporter from *Virginia Living* magazine was on hand, taking notes and watching the events which took place on Saturday.

The reporter is working on a story about the closed military academies in Virginia and was quite impressed with the spirit and activities of AMA's alumni. The magazine had been interested in this story by **Cade Holliday, '48**. Several AMA alumni have been interviewed for the story, but at our press time there was no final word on when the story will appear in the magazine.

## **Museum looking for unique items**

Elsewhere in this issue, you will see a story about what the museum has too much of: duplicate uniform items and AMA crossed rifles, for example. How about what the museum is still looking for? Here is a partial list:

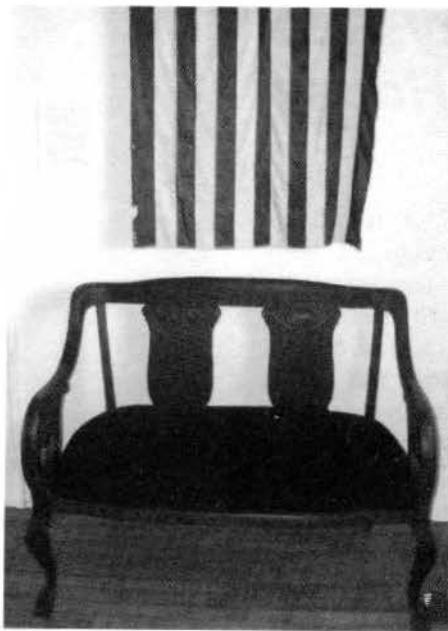
- + Any AMA catalogs printed before the first *Recall* came out in 1911.
- + Any documents or photographs that are individual in nature, particularly if they are labeled.
- + Any AMA graduation or AMA dance invitations from any year.
- + Any AMA decorative item that was sold in the PX, at The Fort, or in Staunton.
- + Any unusual AMA headgear such as shakos, kepis, etc.
- + *Recalls* particularly from the following years: 1911, 1912, 1916, 1917, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1934, 1935, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1957, 1958, 1960, 1971 and 1974.

The AMA Museum will accept *Recalls* from any year, but we don't expect you to send one that you are still using.

+ Swords and sabers are gladly accepted and will be put in a place of honor with the donor's name and, if applicable, class year.

Questions? Contact the AMA Museum at 540/248-3007.

E-mail: [AMAAumniHouse@aol.com](mailto:AMAAumniHouse@aol.com)



**BE SEATED - Cheryl and Bob Walton, '65, have donated some beautiful furniture to the Museum. Above, beneath the flag that flew over AMA on 7 December 1941. Thank you both so much!**

## **Please return those reunion surveys!**

If you attended an AMA reunion in 2002, 2003 or this year, you likely received a survey in the mail asking for your comments on this and past get togethers. We really do want your opinion on everything from the schedule to the food served to hotels to the program and sporting events at each reunion. If you haven't returned your survey yet, please do so. They are ready

have the return address and proper postage. All you need to do is answer a few questions, and drop it in the mail. The Reunion Committee really appreciates your help.



**Lieutenant Reid,  
1960 Recall**

## **Information please!**

We are looking for information, and maybe you can help us.

1] Any information about the Classes of 1976 through 1984. There were no *Recalls* for these years. We would love to see photos and documents, especially *Bayonets* from those years.

2] Any information about the cavalry unit at AMA or the AMA Hunt Club.

3] Any information about the militia in World War II.

4] Any information about our cadets who served in the Korean or Vietnam Wars, including those who were killed in action.

5] Anything that you did while you were at AMA which you do not think the administration knew about! (The statute of limitations HAS run out!)

6] Any suggestions you might have for future reunions.

Can you help us with any of these topics? Contact **Don Studer** at the AMA Alumni House/Museum, P.O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0100. Phone 540/248-3007. e-mail: [AMAAumniHouse@aol.com](mailto:AMAAumniHouse@aol.com)

## **Herbert Reid heads UK Appalachian Center**

When **Herb Reid** got his B.A. at the University of Kansas in 1959, he applied for a teaching position at AMA. He joined the faculty that fall and spent two years in Fort Defiance in the Junior School and coaching athletic teams. In the fall of 1961, he enrolled at the University of Tennessee from which he received an M.A. in political science in 1962.

He joined the faculty at Guilford College in Greensboro, NC, remaining for four years before leaving to get his Ph.D at the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) in 1968. Dr. Reid then joined the faculty at the University of Kentucky where he remains today. A professor of political science, he also is Director of the UK Appalachian Center in Lexington.

In 1990, he was a visiting professor at the University of Rome (Italy) and in 1997 was visiting professor at Arunachal University (India). He is the author of many professional articles.

# Death takes Mrs. Jack (Lee) Manch

Lee Mathis Manch, the widow of Doolittle Raider **Jack "Shorty" Manch**, '38, passed away in Las Vegas on 29 October 2003 after having lapsed into a coma from which she never awoke. She was 83. Jack died in 1958 near Las Vegas when he steered his crippled jet away from nearby homes only to bail out too late for his parachute to open.

Manch was co-pilot for one of the sixteen B-25s that flew from the carrier *Hornet* in April of 1942 to make the first American bombing raid on Tokyo in World War II, just four months after the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. Bailing out over China, Manch and all of his crew save one made it back to American lines. He finished the war flying "The Hump," (as did Tom Roller, '36).

When Chinese troops entered the war against South Korea, Manch was in the Chosin Reservoir as a liaison officer. After the Americans fought their way to the coast, Manch was transferred to Japan where Lee joined him. While on this and other assignments, Jack and Lee became close to General Doolittle, Chuck Yeager, Jackie Cochran, Wayne Newton, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Sammy Snead and other luminaries.

#### Killed in military plane crash

In 1958, Shorty was stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada teaching young officers to fly jets. When his T-33 flamed out over Las Vegas, Shorty ordered his student to parachute to safety while he stayed with the plane to guide it away from inhabited areas, but when he did jump, he was too close to the ground for his chute to open.

Shorty Manch was 39 years old.

Lee honored Jack's name in many ways including the dedication of Manch Elementary School in Las Vegas and the Manch Room at the Shenandoah Valley Airport. She had attended all the Doolittle Raider reunions since Jack's death and served on the board of the Air Force Association. She is survived by her sisters, Amie Daniel and Veda Berger of Utah.

Lee was a proud supporter of AMA, attending a number of AMA alumni reunions. When the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Doolittle Raid approached, Lee tried to make both the commemoration at AMA and the Doolittle Reunion in South Carolina, but could not work out the logistics to get her to Fort Defiance on time.

Jack was the son of **Major Martin Manch**, AMA's bandmaster and German teacher. Jack's older brother, **Martin Manch, Jr.**, '35, passed away in 1995. He and his wife, Annyce, attended the 1985 and 1992 AMA reunions.

Jack's sister, **Rosemary**, who recently moved to Florida from New York State, was at AMA in 2002 when the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Doolittle Raid was commemorated.

The AMA Museum has a display of items concerning the Doolittle Raid and Jack Manch's part in that raid. It includes a photo of Manch's B-25, the third plane to leave the deck of the *USS Hornet* on that April day in 1942.



Lee Manch at dedication of the Manch Room,  
Shenandoah Valley Airport, in 1998

**REUNION 2005 - 28-29-30 APRIL  
WRITE DOWN THESE DATES NOW!**

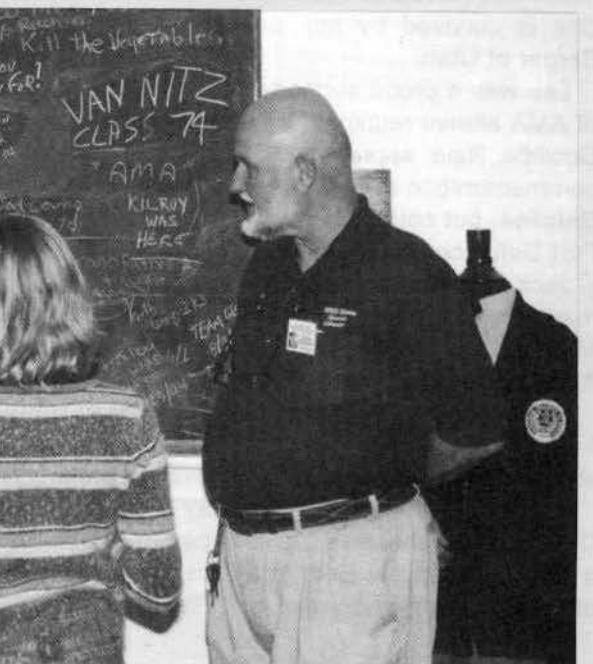
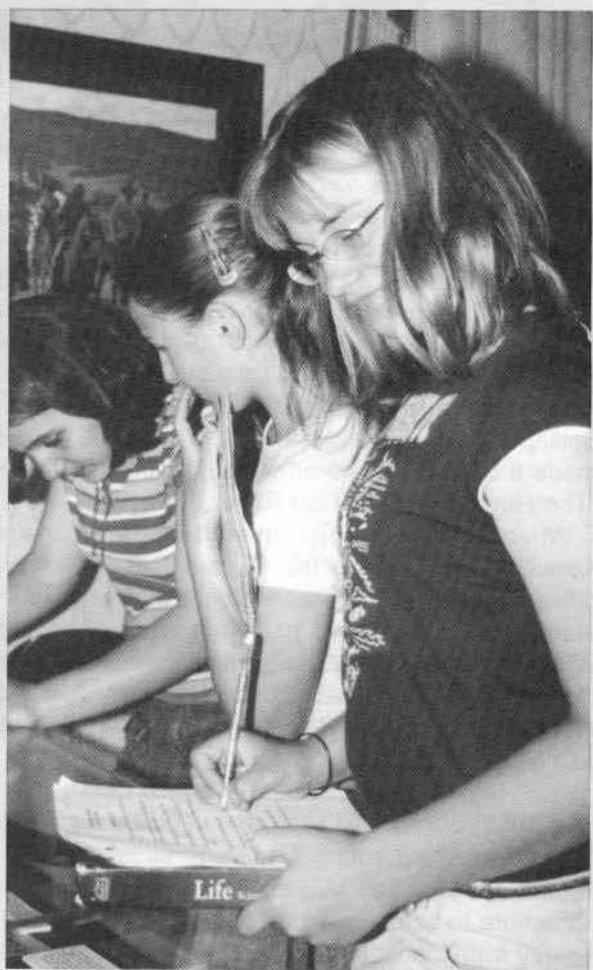
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## Middle school's annual visit to AMA Museum



# Battle streamers to decorate flags at Alumni House

Battle streamers commemorating conflicts from World War II through the Gulf War of 1990-91 and the Kosovo Campaigns of 1999 will grace the flags which stand in the Hall of Honor at the AMA Alumni House/Museum.

Augusta alumni and friends are being given the opportunity to purchase these battle streamers which recognize Army and Air Force operations from 1941 through Kosovo. The engagement name appears on the streamer (see right and below). Navy and Marine Corps battle streamers are available on special order and include bronze, silver and/or gold stars on the ribbon, but not the engagement or battle name.

The streamers are 2.75 inches wide by four feet long, each with a brass grommet at the top, and cut or sewn tails. They are embroidered with the battle or engagement on the authorized campaign ribbon for that action.

The Army and Air Force streamers are available at \$50 each which includes a small donation to the AMA Alumni Foundation. Order instructions and a list of streamers available will be found on the next two pages. An order blank is found below.

Navy and Marine vets should complete Section B on the order form and we will get a quote for you.

Here is the opportunity to remember and salute your brothers in arms. To remember a battle that YOU were in, or in which your brother, father or grandfather took part.



NORMANDY 1944

MAIL TO: AMA Bayonet, 529 Justin Morgan Drive,  
Alamo, CA 94507

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Catalog #	Description	Price
TOTAL		

Streamers are \$50.00 each. This includes shipping to the AMA Alumni/House Museum and a donation to AMA. To charge to VISA or MasterCard, furnish card number, expiration date, and sign your name.

All orders will be acknowledged. The \$50 purchase price is tax deductible.

## SECTION B

MAIL TO: AMA Bayonet,  
529 Justin Morgan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507

I am interested in the purchase of a Navy or Marine battle streamer for exhibit at the AMA Alumni House/Museum.

Please quote me a price. The battle(s) or engagement(s) in which I am interested are:

---

---

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

# U. S. Battle Streamers

These are official U.S. Department of Defense authorized battle streamers which are issued to the Army and the Air Force. Navy and Marine Corps streamers also are available on special order and include bronze, silver and/or gold stars on the campaign ribbon, but do NOT include the engagement or battle name. We will give you a special quote on Navy or Marine streamers. Streamers are 2.75" wide X 4' long with a brass grommet at the top and cut or sewn tails. They are embroidered with the battle or engagement on the authorized campaign ribbon for that action.

In the Hall of Honor is  
school flag and the flag  
battle streamers repre  
streamers may be purc  
to the AMA Alumni F  
them is tax deductible.  
Mail to: AMA Bayone  
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## WORLD WAR II ASIATIC/PACIFIC THEATER

BSR429	AF	Antisubmarine
BSR430	AF	Air combat AP 1941-45
BSR431	Army & AF	Philippines, 1941-42
BSR432	Army & AF	Burma 1941-42
BSR433	Army & AF	Central Pacific 1941-43
BSR434	Army & AF	East Indies, 1942
BSR435	Army	India-Burma, 1942-45
BSR436	Army & AF	Air offensive, Japan, 1942
BSR437	Army & AF	Aleutian Islands, 1942-43
BSR438	Army & AF	China Defensive 1942-45
BSR439	Army & AF	Papua, 1942-43
BSR440	Army & AF	Guadalcanal, 1942-43
BSR441	Army & AF	New Guinea, 1943-44
BSR442	Army & AF	Northern Solomons, 1943-44
BSR443	AF	Eastern Mandates, 1943-44
BSR444	Army & AF	Bismarck Archipelago, 1943-44
BSR445	Army & AF	Western Pacific, 1944-45
BSR446	Army & AF	Leyte, 1944-45
BSR447	Army & AF	Ryukyu, 1945
BSR448	Army & AF	Southern Philippines, 1945
BSR449	Army & AF	Central Burma, 1945
BSR450	Army & AF	Luzon, 1944-45
BSR451	Army & AF	China offensive, 1945
BSR452	AF	India-Burma, 1942-45
BSR453	Army	Eastern Mandates, 1944

## WORLD WAR II EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST/AFRICA

BSR552	AF	Antisubmarine, 1941-45
BSR553	AF	Air combat, EAME, 1941-45
BSR554	Army & AF	Egypt-Libya, 1942-43
BSR555	Army & AF	Air offensive, Europe, 1942-44
BSR556	Army & AF	Algeria-French Morocco, 1942
BSR557	AF	Tunisia (Air), 1943
BSR558	AF	Sicily (Air), 1943
BSR559	AF	Naples-Foggia (Air), 1943-44
BSR560	Army & AF	Anzio, 1944

BSR561	Army & AF	Rome-Arno, 1944
BSR562	Army & AF	Normandy 1944
BSR563	Army & AF	Northern France, 1944
BSR564	Army & AF	Southern France, 1944
BSR565	Army & AF	Northern Apennines, 1944-45
BSR566	Army & AF	Rhineland, 1944-45
BSR567	Army & AF	Ardennes-Alsace, 1944-45
BSR568	Army & AF	Central Europe, 1945
BSR569	Army & AF	Po Valley, 1945
BSR570	Army	Tunisia, 1942-43
BSR571	Army	Sicily, 1943
BSR572	Army	Naples-Foggia, 1943-44

## KOREAN WAR

BSR627	Army & AF	UN defensive, 1950
BSR628	Army & AF	UN offensive, 1950
BSR629	Army & AF	CCF intervention, 1950-51
BSR630	Army & AF	1st UN counteroffensive, 1951
BSR631	Army & AF	CCF Spring offensive, 1951
BSR632	Army & AF	UN Summer-Fall offensive, 1951
BSR633	Army & AF	2nd Korean Winter, 1951-52
BSR634	Army & AF	Korean Summer-Fall, 1952
BSR635	Army & AF	3rd Korean Winter, 1952-53
BSR636	Army & AF	Korean Summer, 1953

## VIETNAM WAR

BSR702	AF	Vietnam Advisory, 1961-65
BSR703	AF	Vietnam defensive, 1965-66
BSR704	AF	Vietnam air, 1966
BSR705	AF	Vietnam air offensive, 1966-67
BSR706	AF	Vietnam air offensive, Phase II, 1967-68
BSR707	AF	Vietnam air offensive, Phase III, 1968
BSR708	AF	Vietnam air/ground, 1968

## ARMED FORCES

BSR802	AF
BSR803	AF
BSR804	AF
BSR805	AF
BSR806	AF

In the AMA Alumni House/Museum are found the American flag, the AMA flags of the different branches of the service. To these flags we hope to attach streamers representing the many engagements in which AMA men have fought. These streamers are \$50 each which includes a handling charge and a 10% contribution to the Foundation. As these streamers are gifts to the Foundation, the purchase of them is tax deductible. Order by number please. Make check payable to: AMA Alumni Foundation, P.O. Box 529 Justin Morgan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507. VISA, MasterCard or American Express accepted. To charge, please sign your order and give the card's expiration date. FAXed to 925/855-7338.

Vietnam air offensive, Phase IV, 1968-69	BSR807	AF	Cambodia, 1975
Tet counteroffensive, 1969	BSR808	AF	Vietnam, 1975
Vietnam Summer-Fall, 1969	BSR809	AF	Mayaguez operation, 1975
Vietnam Winter-Spring, 1969-70	BSR810	Army & AF	Grenada, 1983
Sanctuary counteroffensive, 1970	BSR811	Army & AF	Panama, 1989-90
Southwest Monsoon, 1970	BSR812	AF	Congo, 1960-62
Commando Hunt V, 1970-71	BSR813	AF	Vietnam, 1958-65
Commando Hunt VI, 1971	BSR814	AF	Laos, 1961-62
Commando Hunt VII, 1971-72	BSR815	AF	Cambodia, 1973
Vietnam cease-fire, 1972-73	BSR816	AF	Thailand, 1973
Vietnam counteroffensive, 1965-66	BSR817	AF	Lebanon, 1983-87
Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase IV, 1968	BSR818	AF	Libya-El Dorado Canyon, 1986
Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase II, 1966-67	BSR819	AF	Persian Gulf, 1987-90
Tet counteroffensive, 1968	BSR820	AF	Lebanon, 1958
Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase III, 1967-68	BSR821	AF	Taiwan Straits, 1958-59
Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase V, 1968	BSR822	AF	Quemoy & Matsu Islands, 1958-63
SOUTHWEST ASIA			
Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase VI, 1968-69	BSR824	Army & AF	Defense of Saudi Arabia, 1990-91
Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase VII, 1970-71	BSR825	Army & AF	Liberation and defense of Kuwait, 1991
Consolidation I, 1971	BSR826	Army & AF	Southwest Asia cease-fire, 1991-95
FORMER YUGOSLAVIA			
Vietnam advisory, 1962-65	BSR827	Army & AF	Kosovo air campaign
Winter-Spring, 1970	BSR838	Army & AF	Kosovo Defense Command
AMERICAN THEATER			
FORCES EXPEDITIONS	BSR427	Army & AF	Anti-submarine, 1941-45
Berlin, 1961-63			
Cuba, 1962-63			
Congo, 1964			
Dominican Republic, 1965-66			
Korea, 1966-74			



Order forms  
on page 41

Here is your opportunity to honor the men who served in one or more of these campaigns. To remember a battle YOU were in and the guys who fought beside you. To honor AMA men who fought and died for our country in one of these historic engagements. Please - buy a battle streamer for our flag. Marines and Navy vets - see the notice at the upper left. We can get your streamers too!

# BUYING OLD MILITARY ITEMS

## ESPECIALLY

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Wings  
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Patches  
Guns**

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WW I + WW II +  
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USA**

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## From Colonel Hoover's attic

After Colonel Hoover passed away, family members turned over to the Alumni Association many boxes of photos and slides which had been stored in the colonel's attic. Most had no information to identify them.

Who is the cadet, below, left, with the softball in his hand?



And who are the guys at Camp Kanata, right, below?

E-mail answers to:  
[AMABayonet@aol.com](mailto:AMABayonet@aol.com)

**Write:** Bayonet  
529 Justin Morgan Drive  
Alamo, CA 94507.  
FAX 925/855-7342



In the last issue, we printed the two photos, left and below, and we asked for your help in identifying these cadets.

The first person to identify the late **Ronnie Mahanes, '53**, was **Colonel Mal Livick**, followed quickly by **Steve Tomasek, '56**, and **Goodloe Saunders, '57**. We also learned that Ronnie's nickname was "China," pronounced Cheena, thanks to **Mickey Toms, '67**. Mal was also the first to identify the cadet below as **Colonel Larry Nicholson, '75, USMC**.

*Thanks  
for  
your  
help!*



# SPOTLIGHT on Chris Meek, '84

## Member of AMA's last class scrambles to get his classmates back for Reunion 2004, 20 years later

Bayville, New York is on the north shore of Long Island, that piece of land which floats off the coasts of New Jersey, New York and Connecticut, an area with a greater population in 1979 than 42 of the 50 states.

Here, **Christopher P. Meek, '84**, grew up and attended public school. His father was in the oil business and his mother a registered nurse. When he had finished grammar school, Chris was enrolled in St. Dominic Catholic High School, "but I didn't like the idea of a bunch of nuns bossing me around. I had always wanted to go to a military school." Chris admits to having been "adventuresome" and unmotivated. "I was smart but didn't set goals," he confesses.

His Dad had grown up in Waynesboro and knew Fishburne and AMA well, and if Chris was going to go to a military academy, it was going to be Augusta. So, in the fall of 1979, Chris traded the black and white habits of his nun superiors to the cadet gray of his new suzerains in Fort Defiance. His plan was to walk across the gym stage in June of 1984 to receive his diploma, wearing that AMA cadet gray uniform.

At Augusta, he made friends easily and played baseball and basketball. He wrote some for *The Bayonet* and was on the Quiz Bowl at the PBS station in Harrisonburg. He became Captain of C Company in his sophomore year, the unit which, in those days, consisted of the Junior School cadets, and he was CO of the Junior Roller Rifles (as well as a member of the Roller Rifles Precision Drill Team). Working with the young cadets gave him a leg up when he went home for summer vacation where he found a way to help out with Little League, a decision which led to a second career he still revels in today.

### Knew school was in bad shape

In his last two years at AMA, he was a captain on the staff, S-2 one year and S-3 the next. "We all knew that the school was in bad shape," he says. "The bus broke down and couldn't be repaired and then, the boiler ceased to function and they didn't have the money to fix it, but we never dreamed that the school was going to close. It was an absolute and total shock when my father called me aside during the 1983-84 Christmas vacation to tell me that **Sergeant Studer** had called to say that Augusta would not reopen in January."

Chris and his parents got into their pickup and drove to Fort Defiance so that Chris could retrieve his belongings. "It was pretty awful. I tried to get in touch with some alumni to see if there was anything we could do to keep the school open, but had no success. I looked for old friends to tell them goodbye, but they either had already come and gone, or they hadn't gotten there yet. Some, I would never see

again. **Aurelio Wangumert** died a few years later." Chris' best friends included **Thad Arrington**, a fellow baseball player. **Joe Newman** was lost to Chris for a while, then



**TWO DECADES LATER** - Chris Meek, '84, thanks his fellow AMA alumni for remembering his classmates in emotional comments at the Saturday luncheon during Reunion 2004.

found, now, lost again. "I hear he owns a night club in Miami," Chris says.

Chris would be leaving his girlfriend at Stuart Hall "and it dawned on me that I would not be walking across the gym stage in June to get my AMA diploma. It was a lot for a kid to absorb... To have things end when you are going for the

*winning touchdown and get tackled on the two inch line, well, that is what it was like for a senior to learn that the school he loved had closed. I felt like I had lost my family, the cadets essentially were my brothers and the faculty essentially parent figures."*

After leaving AMA, Chris enrolled at Locust Valley High School in New York where the guidance counsellor suggested that he go straight into college. But Chris said no, he wanted to graduate from high school in 1984, his class year. His first day in class, the other kids checked out the big 197 pound transfer and decided that he must be a substitute teacher.

#### **Learned lessons at AMA**

At Locust Valley, Chris was an immediate leader. "The things I learned from Doc Savedge and my other AMA teachers, the tactical skills from my ROTC training, the physical fitness from early morning PT, combined to



**VOLLEYBALL - Chris awards a point in a match between Ashley and West Brunswick, NC High Schools.**

## ***I heard Doc say, "You've got to go back to college."***

*help me find my place in this next environment.*" When the school board tried to stop distribution of the school paper due to a controversial article, Chris helped organize the distribution of the paper in defense of the writers' First Amendment rights. On 28 June of 1984, Chris, in a green graduation robe, got his high school diploma, a far cry from the cadet gray he had envisioned six months earlier. Colonel Savedge, who was teaching a yearbook seminar nearby, surprised Chris by showing up for the graduation ceremonies.

Chris enrolled at the University of Oklahoma "as required by my grandmother, but I only stayed a year." He was not ready for such independence in the loosely structured environment on the Norman campus. He took a semester off, then enrolled at Nassau Community College in New York. During this time, he met his wife-to-be. "To make some extra money, I was a bouncer in a bar and Colleen came in. At AMA, I could never keep my tie on straight; I would always be told to straighten my tie. The first thing Colleen said to me was: 'You need to straighten your tie...' We dated for two years before we got married."

Colleen was in law school at Western New England College in Springfield, Massachusetts, and she graduated in May of 1987. The same year, Chris received an associate degree from Nassau Community College and enrolled at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, majoring in political science with a concentration in public policy and decision-making.

Again, Chris decided to take a break from academia even as his mentor Chuck Savedge pushed him to go back and

Dad's company and later a purchasing agent. Then, in December of 1992 a Nor'easter slammed into Long Island "and we lost everything. Only our cars were insured. The family had to help us get back on our feet."

#### **Doc Savedge's influence**

At that very moment, Chris' Aunt Ellen, who lived in Staunton, sent him a copy of the *Reader's Digest* article about Colonel Savedge (see opposite page). Though Doc had passed away in 1990, Chris did not know it until he read the article, yet he felt that Doc was speaking directly to him. "I heard Doc say, 'You've got to go back to college!'" Chris told Colleen that he was going back to college and that he would get his degree. With her support, he went back to Stony Brook and in 1996 received a Bachelor of Arts in political science and a Masters degree in Liberal Studies (MALS) with history and education specialities.

In May of 1996, Colleen gave birth to their first daughter who they named Riley. "She was born two hours and four minutes before the start of Game six in the 1994 NBA Finals in which our team, the Knicks, were playing... Riley was the coach's last name. Her middle name is Nicole from the Knicks, which I had wanted to be Knickole." Colleen quickly changed the name to Nicole on the birth certificate!

Chris had a teaching assistant position while he was in college, but found the job market on Long Island tough. He applied to an alternative high school on Staten Island and was accepted. "Concord High school looked like two Deane's Castles put together. The Buildings had been

(continued on page 71)

finish college. At the same time, Chris had taken over a Long Island high school basketball program and says that his years at AMA really helped with this chore. "I had to deal with parents, kids and outside agencies... That first year, our team won the Long Island Division C title." It was 1987 and the job market was tough. For a while, Chris was an office manager for his

# The unforgettable Charles Savedge

**By Katie McCabe**

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His voice stopped me as I sat down in the back row of the lecture hall at the University of Maryland. From the front of the hall boomed the drawl of the little man they called "Colonel Savedge" – a voice rich and warm and full of "Vahginyah."

"This is a year of your life," he said, looking out on the sea of teenagers on that June afternoon 15 years ago. "It's yours to record or let slip through your fingers." Everything evaporated in the Colonel's drawl: the 90-degree heat, my embarrassment at being the only teacher at this student-yearbook course without her students, my annoyance at having to leave behind my British literature preparation. I just could not stop listening.

"You're writing history," he continued. "The story you tell in your yearbook is the last thing anybody will write about most of the people in your school until their obituary. Think about it! He fixed his gaze on each individual. "It's up to you – and you – and you."

For the next two hours he held our rapt attention, making it clear that success would hinge on one thing – individual dedication. "You can do it," he said. "In fact, only you can do it." My mind locked in on those words as he bounded from desk to desk, holding aloft yearbooks that rivaled professional magazines. When he finished, students charged forward, jockeying for a place at his elbow, plying him with questions. Kids just like mine, I thought, except mine didn't want to come.

I gathered up my papers, bent on beating a hasty retreat, embarrassed by the yearbook I had tried to hide under my chair. Suddenly I smelled cigarette smoke and looked up. Standing there in the now-empty auditorium, smiling at me through clouds of smoke, was the Colonel.

"I wish you could have seen your face," he said, all warmth and electricity. I forgot to be embarrassed. The thoughts tumbled out. Looking at the yearbooks he had shown us, I told him, I was stunned by the polished graphics, but what impressed me most was the writing. "Who are the kids who

produce this stuff?" I asked. "And who are their teachers? I can't imagine..." He grinned, and asked, "May I see your book?" My insides twisted. I handed him the photo album that passed for a yearbook at Immaculata Prep, the Catholic girls' school in Washington, DC, where I'd just taken a job. The shyness that had plagued me since childhood washed over me. "Immaculata is a very academic school," I told him. "The girls spend all their time studying. They aren't interested in working on the yearbook."

"Yes, I can see that," he said, flipping through the baby-picture section, his face impassive.

"Besides, we don't have the money it would take to do the kind of book..." My voice trailed off, and I looked down. I couldn't meet the blue eyes that seemed to look right through me. "I'll be lucky just to survive," I mumbled.

He gave me plenty of time to contemplate my status as a coward and a quitter. Finally he spoke: "I have a feeling that you're going to do just a little bit more than survive," he said slowly. Then he twinkled, "And think how much fun we'll have next summer when you bring your staff!"

With a smile, he left through the side door. I felt cornered. It was obvious, now, that there was going to be a next summer, complete with kids, and I had to make it happen. He'd seen all of that in the space of a minute, this whirling dervish with a military title – whom I knew nothing about.

## A call for help

Autumn leaves were falling in the Immaculata courtyard when disaster brought him back into my life. I had three weeping seniors on my hands and yearbook proofs that looked like large-type Sanskrit. The printer's charges for fixing the mess would exhaust our budget – if it could be fixed at all. Suddenly, I thought of the Colonel. Digging through the workshop brochure, I found his name and address: "Col.



**"Doc" Savedge, teacher, mentor, headmaster, friend**

Charles E. Savedge, Headmaster, Augusta Military Academy, Fort Defiance, Virginia." I dialed the number. "I'm

Katie McCabe from Immaculata Prep," I told the secretary. "I'm calling for Colonel Charles Savedge. I met him at a yearbook workshop at the University of Maryland. I don't think he'll remember me, but..."

A click, and then seconds later – the voice. "Well, Katie McCabe, how are you surviving up there on the other side of the Potomac?" I had no idea he received hundreds of such calls each year from advisors and students all over the country. I little knew how busy he was as headmaster and chemistry teacher. I launched into a page-by-page description of my tortured proofs. "That's it?", he said, laughing, when I had finished. The problem that had seemed so monumental evaporated in two minutes: the typesetting mess was the printer's fault, he explained, and it was all fixable and free. "Now tell me all about the staff you've put together for next year."

#### **"You did it!"**

By the following summer, I had pulled together a small staff, and even more the next year. How he beamed as he trailed behind me into the auditorium – ponytailed, well-scrubbed and serious, all 30 of them "recruited" from my honors English classes by every ruse short of grade-fixing. "Well, I see that Im-mac-u-la-ta has arrived," he boomed. "I'm so glad they've brought extra chairs!"

Once he began to speak, my students forgot they were only 15 or 16 years old and believed, down to their toes,

breezily. "In fact, by the time you get to Ohio, you'll already have lectured 300 people. You'll be a pro." He was half-right. Before he arrived, I had lectured to 300 people, weak-kneed and sweaty-palmed. I certainly wasn't a pro, but I was learning from a dozen people who were – which was exactly what the Colonel had intended.

Two days into the workshop, the Colonel arrived. He praised, cajoled and browbeat us. And in the middle of it all, he revealed pieces of himself. This impassioned man, I learned, was fiercely proud of the long lines of award-winning cadets he had taught. He was patriotic to the core and steeped in Southern tradition. He loved his military academy, tucked away in the Shenandoah Valley. He loved his parish in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He loved the teachers he mentored.

More than anything else, the Colonel loved kids. And they loved him back, piling round him after lectures, avid for his praise, waiting for his trademark bear hug that said, louder than words, "You did it! I knew all along you would."

#### **A lifetime lesson**

When my own kids produced a yearbook that reduced the senior class to silence and won kudos from the judges, no one touted it more loudly than the Colonel. What he orchestrated behind the scenes, however, made the greatest difference for me. Out of nowhere, letters began appearing in my mailbox. "We are hoping you can help us,"

## **He loved his military academy, tucked away in the Shenandoah Valley...**

that they were "serious historians, responsible for people's memories." But what they believed most was the message that far transcended yearbooks: "Nothing is ever a substitute for your best."

They believed so hard that they raced back to school ready to tear down the walls – literally. "You heard what he said," my gutsy new editor told me. "We'll never have a real yearbook unless we do our own photography. And the room next door to the yearbook office is perfect for a darkroom."

"That's a janitor's closet," I pointed out. "A janitor's closet now," she told me firmly. And then the Colonel threw me another curve. His name was nowhere to be found in the letter that arrived one afternoon. But before I finished the first paragraph, inviting me to "join the faculty of Ohio University's Summer Journalism Workshop." I guessed who was behind it.

"Is this your idea of a joke?" I spluttered into the phone while the Colonel chuckled. "I'm not ready to teach at a workshop. What do you think I can teach? Maybe after a couple of years..."

"My dear," he interrupted, "whether or not you think you are ready is immaterial. I do. So stop whining and start packing." Once again I knew I was cornered. "I – guess it will be all right," I said. "You'll be there and you can show me what to do."

"Oh, no, I'll be at the University of Maryland," he said

they began. "We are a small school with no money and not much support from students." When I would tell him in amazement, "I've been getting letters from staffs who have gotten my address somehow," he'd chuckle and say, "Imagine that."

Somewhere in between the letters and plane rides to workshops, I started forgetting to be shy. I learned to lecture without weak knees and sweaty palms. And I watched the enigmatic man who'd made it all happen glide in and out of lecture halls with an ease I envied. Then, one night, a few minutes before the opening of the country's largest yearbook workshop, I learned something that will stay with me always.

The room just off the lecture hall at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana was unlocked when I tried the knob, looking for a quiet place to calm myself. Standing alone, smoking and sipping iced tea, was the Colonel. I took a step backward and started to duck out the door. "No, no, no, sit down," he said.

"I'm scared to death," I confided, waiting for him to drive away the butterflies. Then, I noticed that his hands were shaking. Stunned, I stared at him, feeling like a child who has just stumbled upon a parent's all-too-human nature.

"Just sit here with me," he said. I sat; he smoked. There was complete silence between us. I could see in his eyes

(continued on page 72)

# Deane, Hoover, VD movies and Sunday Parade: John Morris, '49

This is the third in a series of works by Dr. John N. Morris, '49. Morris was a professor of English Literature at Washington University in St. Louis for 30 years. He died in 1997 and his wife, Anne, has supervised the publication of his memoir Then: Essays in Reconstruction. Here follows an extract from that work.

"Morris, you're as dumb as owl shit!", thus saith **Major Deane**, chairman of AMA's academic board, who taught us eighth-grade English. This did not express Major Deane's settled opinion of my abilities, but these frank appraisals of one's lapses were salutary as a preparation for life or a harsh review of one's book. The high, delighted cackle with which he accompanied such remarks expressed Major Deane's aesthetic pleasure in each new proof of juvenile absurdity, in confident hope of which he entered class every morning with a spring in his step.

AMA did not put much faith in our natural curiosity or love of learning. We did not labor under the lash, exactly, though in **Major Hoover's** Spanish class, a fencing foil (he was the team coach) encouraged industry. A single sharp slap across the buttocks with this springy blade rewarded each lapse of memory. By the time Hoover was finished with us, we might not be ready for *La vida es sueño*, but most of us could have gotten the sense out of a front page of a Mexico City daily paper.

Major Hoover believed in simple measures directly applied. Caught smoking during study hour I was offered a choice between his punishment and **Colonel Roller's**. We both agreed that his would cause less fuss. Now, having first determined I was right handed, he ground out the cigarette in my left palm. This brisk and rational punishment caused surprisingly little pain. For a few days, a blister the size of a dime gave me trouble until I lanced it with a needle from my sewing kit and let it drain. In the angle between the lifeline and the heartline, the faintest possible trace of a scar remains, a souvenir of this exercise in economical justice.

A Deane or a Hoover I found easy to admire, but not **Lieutenant Morrissey**, who, hired as a trainer for the football team and some minor sports, had

the additional task of teaching physical geography. This duty he discharged by reading aloud from the textbook in his whispery, rasping voice. Hours thus passed made real to me the concept of geological time, the infinitely slow deposition of sediments, the formation of continents, the gradual wearing down of great mountain ranges. Soon, even this was too much for Morrissey: now he sat silent at his desk while we transcribed the text, page after page, in our notebooks. Word of this reached the ear of authority, and Morrissey gratefully returned to his lair in the gym basement among the liniments and Ace bandages.

Four or five of our teachers lived in single rooms in the barracks, ate their three meals in the mess hall, washed themselves in our shower rooms, and voided their bowels in

our latrines. How could grown men have endured this life? And why? And where did Colonel Roller find them? Did some academic-employment agency specialize in supplying schools like AMA with the American version of Evelyn Waugh's Captain Grimes?

A refugee from the Spanish Civil War ought to have engaged my imagination, but something about **Captain Alfredo Arnaldo y Bras** deflected speculation. Shunted from what pillar to which

post, by what conceivable route had this plump little Spanish lawyer been driven from Barcelona or wherever to a room in our barracks in Fort Defiance? But what was that to me? Adults were their own business and one scarcely credited them with real feelings. I think I did dimly discern that I had never met a man less connected to other human life. Absolutely incomunicado inside his exile's imperturbable good manners, solitary Captain Arnaldo moved among us toward his suicide at a dainty, almost mincing, pace.

At the head of the mess hall table, **Lieutenant Selden**



Major Deane



Major Hoover



John Morris



Major Manch



Mrs. Michaels

emptied three heaping teaspoonsful of sugar into his coffee cup that with shaking hands he lifted to his lips. My knife rang sharply against my water glass, and he dumped the whole hot concoction into his lap. This entirely unfunny trick someone at the table repeated two or three times a week. Selden was terrified of us; this made us merciless. Even the story we thought we knew about him – that he had rescued his whole family from a burning house – couldn't protect him from us. The blinking, averted eyes, the placatory smiles – the whole scarred face awtwitch with self-deprecation – all these were a provocation. Each private self of us might have admired him as every day he contended with his consuming timidity; in concert we tormented him, as if to punish him for fearing us. Like us (perhaps we thought) he was ashamed of something. From my window four stories above the courtyard, I hung by my ankles gripped in my roommates' hands, my fists and forearms aflame with lighter fluid, out of the dark my upside-down apparition rapped at Selden's window where he sat grading Latin quizzes and sent him scrabbling into a corner of his room. Now my roommates hauled me back to safety. Never again. I for one had frightened him enough, happy to have escaped, as I thought, undamaged.

Most of the time, I was glad to be at Augusta and worked hard to make a place for myself among my company there.

cautionary tale had at least the merit of showing a man and a woman getting into bed together, something not on view in the Big Room movies or at the Dixie Theater in Staunton. Even so, for an hour or two we fourteen-year-olds had to wonder whether the game would be worth the candle.

On other long afternoons, however, the projector was silent and dark, the little silver screen rolled up. Except for **Mrs. Michaels**<sup>1</sup>, the librarian, I had the place pretty much to myself. On the wall behind me, in its diagram the BAR still exploded into its component parts. For an hour, Jane Eyre at her school in Belgium reminded me of myself, or I labored, as a runaway, with George Orwell's clergyman's daughter in the hop fields in Kent. Little Father Time hung the children in the closet because there were too many; I ached for Jude and his exclusion as if I knew already about foreclosures. Everything that I had ever read seemed present in the moment, and out of the poems still unknown to me, I heard the children laughing. Sergeant Lejaune's Legionnaires stared from the walls of the secret garden and doors slammed shut, up and down the cunning passages. I was overwrought.

In the diagram behind me, the Browning Automatic Rifle exploded into its component parts.

In a school of another sort such vacant afternoons would have been taken up by compulsory sports. Not at Augusta.

## *...It had the merit of showing a man and a woman getting into bed together, something not on view in the Big Room or the Dixie Theater*

At four on a desolate afternoon I yearned for a world elsewhere. Sometime I sought a version of it in our library, a couple of well-lit rooms above the mess hall next to the space where the band practices and **Major Manch**, a Kaiser Wilhelm look-alike, gave music lessons. At the long tables, we stripped down, then put together again, the Browning Automatic Rifle. On one wall a diagram exploded the weapon into its components – springs, pins, pistons and levers. In a test of proficiency, we reassembled these well-machined, discrete, gleaming inertnesses, reconstituting this system of interacting surfaces, this lethal twenty-pound society of innocent parts.

Here, too, on some mornings, we were shown War Department training films on the dangers of venereal disease. In black and white were exhibited in close-up larger-than-life images of the male sexual organ, the soft and hard chancres, the seeping discharges all displayed before the Signal Corps' imperturbable camera. Now came a few minutes on prevention; artwork demonstrated the proper use of the condom, and in something called a Prophylactic Station, a cheerful, unwincing soldier inserted, in a post exposure treatment, the tip of a tiny tube of some medicament into the opening of his urethra, and squeezed. The lesson concluded with a one-reel narrative, ruefully ironic in construction, called *I Thought She Was Clean*. This

Instead, a daily forty-five minutes or so of close-order drill were thought to suffice – a matter of taking, platoon by platoon, a pointless regulated walk in concert. Platoon by platoon, every day in my recollection, we took our pointless walk. Up and down the field and to and fro on it, compact rectangles of us advance, as if full of relentless purpose, toward no destination at all, then in an instant shift the axis of march through 90 or 180 degrees, moving off as resolutely as before toward another nothing.

To the spectator all this may be, anyhow for a few minutes, diverting, but to the participants, what could be more tedious? In fact, most of the time, in a low-key way, we rather enjoyed it. Day after day in these evolutions we submit ourselves to the will of another, the drillmaster who day after day practices and improves his art. It is at his command that this collectivity changes front, darts off in a new common direction, unanimous as tropical fish in a tank. He is the brain of a simple organism. Such will and purpose

(concluded on page 52)

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<sup>1</sup> Her husband was Master Sergeant George Michaels of the PMS&T staff and, after his retirement, assistant to the commandant.

**Bill Aldrich, '48**

# Revolutionary tie design cuts railroad costs

Some 20 million railroad crossties are purchased by America's six biggest railroads every single year just for

career with Union Carbide, the Dillingham Corporation, and Marcona Corporation before he founded WTA, has



**50 YEARS AGO** - This Norfolk and Western freight train passes fresh wooden crossties in a photo made in 1954. Half a century later, the rail industry still is using treated wooden ties which require constant replacement. Until Bill Aldrich, '48, and his entrepreneurial group has come on the scene...

maintenance and repair. The price of wood has skyrocketed and the useful life of a crosstie has dropped since the government has banned or severely limited the use of creosote and other preservatives.

The solution: to develop a tie of identical size to the ones in common use that can be installed in the same manner as crossties are installed now, but which will have a longer life at a competitive price.

"If I had had any idea how many barriers we would have faced in getting a product that the government and the railroads both approve, I and the other investors would have found something else to do with our money," says Bill Aldrich, '48, a Houston businessman and former President of WTA Enterprises. Aldrich, who had a

a business degree from West Virginia University. He teamed with Ph.D. level mechanical and chemical engineers to develop a tie made of composite materials.

They created Tie Tek, Inc, a wholly owned subsidiary of North American Technologies, the company with which they had merged. The result: "We now have orders for more ties than our current production capacity can accommodate," says Aldrich. "Union Pacific alone has placed an order for one million ties to be delivered to them as soon as possible."

The benefit to consumers is apparent: whether one ever rides on a train,

the cost of moving consumer products by rail will benefit from the anticipated lower maintenance costs.

Aldrich said that his company had two big hurdles to cross: *"to qualify as a supplier in the eyes of the railroads and to achieve a scale where making a profit was a guarantee. It was very frustrating that after all the time, effort and money we had put into the project, we had market approval and knew how to make the product and at what cost, but we were not able to interest the capital markets until now. Persistence, patience and dumb luck finally paid off and we will be able to triple our current production by the fall of this year."*

Making the ties involved having a low cost level for the raw material feed stock. The product is made of a combination of plastic, rubber, fiberglass, nonferrous minerals and bonding agents. The rubber is mostly recycled "crumb" made from discarded tires. The fiberglass is post-industrial waste that previously went to landfills. The plastic is post-consumer and post-industrial polyethylene waste. About 70% of each tie is composed of recycled materials.

*"It's an overused phrase, but this truly is a win-win situation,"* Aldrich says. *"Fewer trees have to be cut, a carcinogenic soil contaminant is eliminated, we're using recycled waste, and we have a superior product which will save the railroads money in the long haul."*



**Bill Aldrich,  
1948 Recall**

Bill and his wife, Natalie, live in Houston. Their son, Jeffrey, is a geologist in Denver and daughter Amy now lives in Charlotte. After finishing at West Virginia, Bill was in the armored infantry achieving the top rank of captain. At AMA, he was *Ad Astra*, Captain of Company E, on the fencing team, and was co-editor of both *The Bayonet* and *The Recall*, never dreaming that his retirement days would be filled with pride for having accomplished something that seemed, for a while, impossible.

as it has is his, and he delights in this. If he is sufficiently the master, he can turn away from it risking a collision with the other platoons. The whole field and all that moves on it are present in his head. Fifty yards away, at the last moment, he saves it from disaster. Perhaps now, to show his mastery, he plays another game with it. He explodes it. Squad by squad, file by file he disperses it, marching it off in all the four directions. Centrifugal, it almost dissolves into the distances around him, each part advancing toward its own horizon. He stands in the center still, the sun to this planetary system, sole point of organization, keeping the cadence. Now, file by file and squad by squad he rescues the platoon from dissolution. In the center of the field his voice reforms the interlocking parts into their original society. All this exhilarated me when I came to be the drillmaster.

#### The Sunday Parade

Late Sunday afternoon, the drill field became the Parade Ground. Twenty or thirty cars of middle-aged spectators from Staunton parked along the bowl-like embankment, and behind the reviewing stand where the First Captain and his staff took up their positions, a taxi or two unloaded girls from Stuart Hall and Mary Baldwin College. Our white-dyke crossbelts with shining breastplates showed brilliantly against our curly cut dress tailcoats; our starched duck trousers whistled as we marched. Around the brim of the bowl we proceeded in column, exhibiting ourselves to the spectators close up, the officers at the head of each platoon and company, resplendent in scarlet sashes and emphatic chevrons. On the field, we assembled in a line of companies in mass formation, and our spectacle began.

By contrast to the drill field, the Parade Ground was a purely ritual space. Here was no room for the drillmaster's artistic will, which inside the rules of Field Manual 22-5 every day discovered dancing, inscribing a simple choreography on the surface of the plain. The cadet battalion commander, ostensibly powerful, was in fact entirely unfree to depart by so much as a syllable or gesture from the liturgy. Through him as lens some idea of Authority refracted itself upon us. But against the drillmaster he scarcely existed. Even so, I longed to succeed him — that glitter in the distance, our annual disappearing temporary king. In my wishes for myself, between these alternatives (perhaps less absurdly embodied) I have dithered all my life.

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*More from the pen of John Morris in the next issue. A poem by Dr. John will be found on page 62.*

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**The AMA Alumni Association Board of Directors next meets on Saturday 18 September in Martinsville, VA at 10 AM. Brenda and Gordon Metz, '68, will host a party for all AMA alumni that evening. See page 63.**



**WEARING AN AMA BUCKLE,** Anne Webster, wife of the late Tony Webster, '57, from Belleville, IL, visits the AMA Museum with Duke Fancher, '58.



**ENJOYING THE EVENING,** Tommy Mitchell, '52, and Connie looking good at Reunion 2004.

No room in the inn

# AMA Museum has a "good" problem: too much stuff

Four years ago when the AMA Museum was still an unfulfilled dream, planners wondered if they would ever be able to fill the facility with interesting items that would help to tell the AMA story. Now, they have the flip side of the problem: while they are **still** looking for those unique items not now at the museum, they have collected boxes and boxes of duplicate uniform items, documents, text books and cadet brass.

**Sergeant Don Studer** says that "while we are still looking for one-of-a-kind AMA memorabilia, we are bulging at the seams with duplicated common items like uniforms and brass." There are so many boxes of identical items that they have run out of room at the museum and many things are now being stored in a Big Barracks office.

**Ben Zinkhan, '60, Sergeant Joe Josephson** and Studer have spent many hours sorting, cataloging and packing away scores of duplicated items, a far cry from the AMA Museum's modest beginnings. When the school closed, a small collection of AMA related pieces had been put in storage at VMI by **Doc Savedge** and **Steve Trent, '70**: a few uniforms, some *Recalls*, and a few photographs. **Abbie Dabney, '51**, collected and stored the school's trophies. When Savedge passed away in 1990, his priceless collection of AMA photographs was lost, but **Linda Roller Livick** kept all of Doc's collection of *Recalls*.

As the museum began to take shape, donations started to come in even before there was anywhere to store things temporarily. The museum now has a complete set of *Recalls*, uniforms from every era, and an endless variety of hats, caps, uniform brass, jewelry, pictures, class text books, many of them unique and fascinating. The mission is to have three of everything which means keeping the three items in the best condition.

"And we are still looking for those unique and fascinating items," Josephson says. "We just don't know what to do with all the identical things that we have received, each donated with love by a former cadet or family member."

#### May return some items

There may be an attempt to return some of the duplicates to the donors, if that is the donor's wish. In some cases, the items may be offered for sale to interested alumni and friends of AMA. Studer says that identifying the donor is not always easy: "We arrived at the Museum one morning to find a large green garbage bag filled with



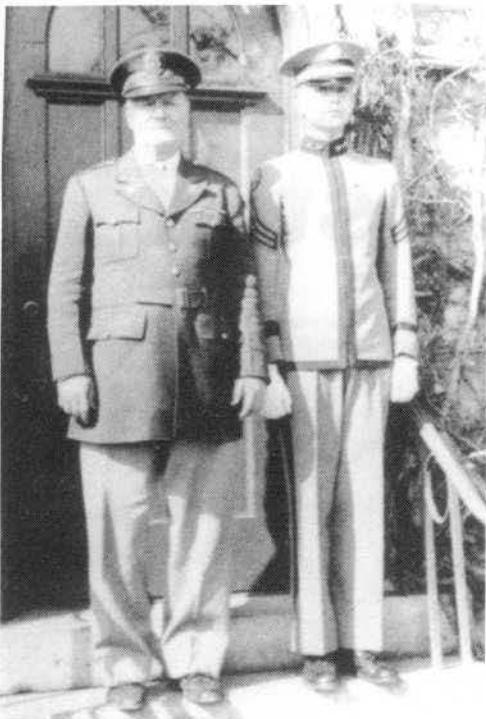
**NOWHERE TO PUT IT** - Symptomatic of the problem is this mountain of duplicate uniforms which has led to storing such items off site.

*uniforms and other AMA stuff and a note which said, 'Do with this as you wish.' We have no idea who the materials came from and no way of knowing who to return the items to."* Josephson pointed out that there are some very valuable articles on loan to the museum. *"We are very pleased to have some special items on loan such as Tom Roller's World War II flight jacket with the Chinese blood chit on the back. Any items on loan will be returned to the owner upon request."*

The AMA Alumni Association often hears from a former cadet who has lost his yearbook or a part of an AMA uniform that was a treasure to him. Sometimes when there is a move, a death or a divorce, things get thrown away that may be of no value to the one who discards them, but of tremendous personal value to another. Studer says that alumni and AMA friends who are looking for some special AMA item should contact the museum to see if that might be surplus to the needs of the museum. *"If we have an extra, we can let it go for a donation to the AMA Alumni Foundation,"* he says.

Studer has compiled a list of things that the museum would like to acquire and has done a census of *Recalls* to determine for which years there is a surplus supply and which years don't have the requisite three copies. See story on page 38.

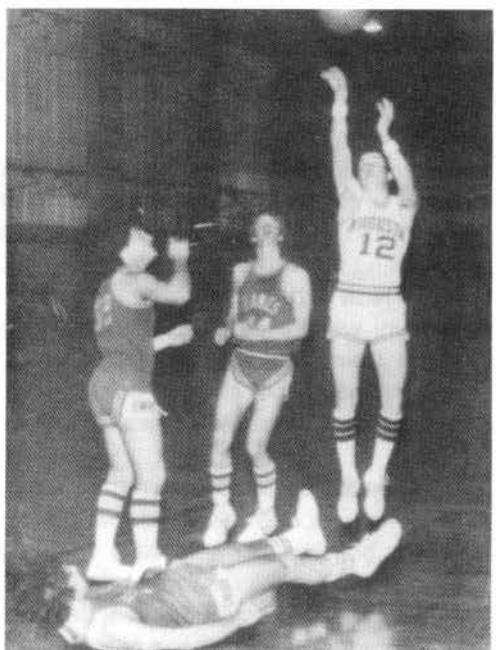
The bottom line is: something's gotta give! There just is no more room in the inn.



**60 YEARS AGO** in 1945 - There were just two Ad Astras in school that year - Major Charles S. Roller, Jr. and Cadet Captain Jimmy Pigg.



**70 YEARS AGO** in 1935 - Cadet Julian Quarles, holding up a lamp post.



**25 YEARS AGO** in 1980 - Rick Clary charges for two points.



**35 YEARS AGO** in 1970 - Larry and Don Malnati. You'll have to ask them what they were doing!



**50 YEARS AGO** in 1955 - AMA's swim team. Front, l. to r., Jim Hume, Jim Petty, Slade Ballou, Dave Lea, Tony Webster, Dick Clotfelter, Jim Meier and Tom Petty. Back row, Jim Lanks, Jack Holloran, Harry Sommers, Charles Marshall, Rock Clotfelter, and Roy Pope, Manager.

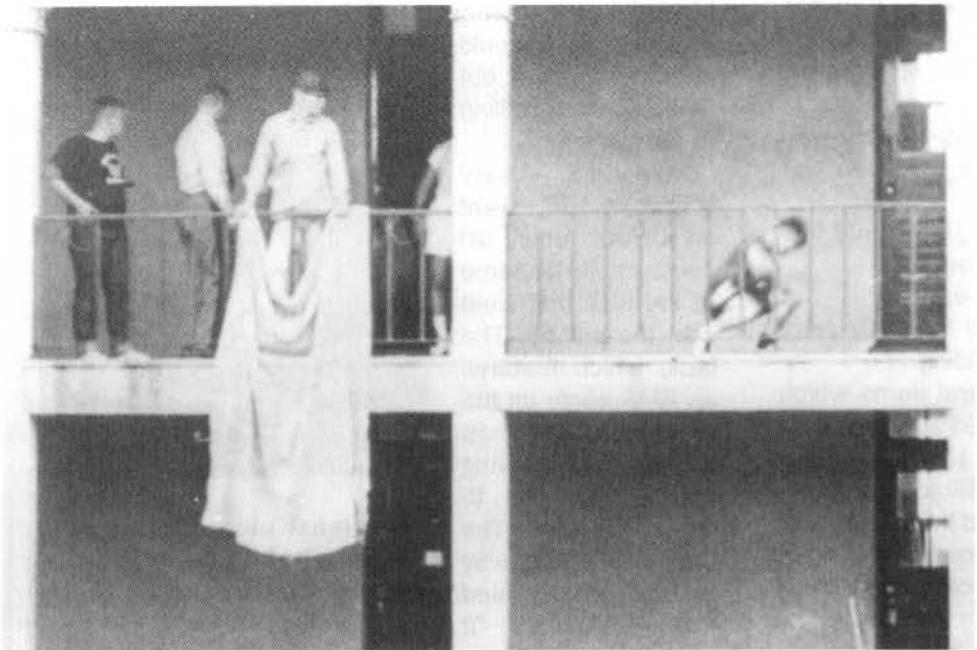
*On this page and on the opposite page are the seven classes which will be honored at Reunion 2005. If you were in one of these classes, start making plans NOW, not only to attend next year, but to get as many of your classmates back as possible!*

## HONOR CLASSES NEXT YEAR

To stay up to date on all the goings on at AMA,  
sign on at [AMAAalumni.org](http://AMAAalumni.org) - AMA's splendid website!



**30 YEARS AGO** in 1975 - Founder's Day in the Augusta Stone Church Cemetery. This is the firing squad commanded by Cadet John Tyminski and composed of, l. to r., Brett Thompson, Arthur Yuen, John Arthur and Jim Yancey. They stand at present arms while Taps is played.



**40 YEARS AGO** in 1965 - Getting ready for GI. Spit, shine, polish, dust and clean in preparation for the annual Government Inspection.

## Brett gets his patent

**Brett Thompson**, '75, shown at left handling an M-1, has gotten a patent on a device which can make it easier for restaurants to go from frozen food to a tasty dish on your plate.

Patent number 6,691,608 was issued to him early this year for a way to cheaply and quickly thaw frozen food, particularly frozen meat. As Brett explains, food is normally frozen for transportation to prolong its life between the time it is harvested until it is served. Meat in particular is susceptible to dangerous bacteria and because of its weight and density, it thaws less quickly than other food products. Brett's invention features a container impervious to water with a quick release connection to a pump. A second container holds the frozen food and is immersed in the first container.

What's next? "I still have to raise funds to make some injection die moldings," he says. "I can sell the invention, I can license it, or I can find a manufacturer on my own. A lot to think about over the next few months."

Good luck, Brett!

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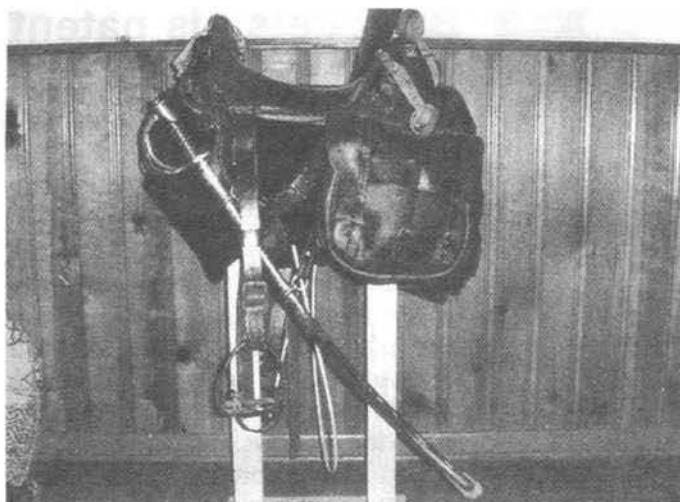
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REX THEATRE: Fiddlers Convention	Galax
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BIRTHPLACE OF COUNTRY MUSIC: Bristol	
CARTER FAMILY FOLD: Scott Co.	
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# REUNION 2005

## APRIL 28-29-30



Saddle used by Ben Carlisle, '33

## Alumni bidding against each other on eBay – again

Once again, Augusta alumni are bidding against each other on eBay to secure items related to AMA which each intends to donate to the AMA Museum.

*"We have had this happen before," says Duke Fancher, '58, AMA Museum volunteer. "Two alumni find some AMA item listed on eBay and each starts to bid. The result is that the price is run up unnecessarily."*

Jerry Wildman, '57 says, "It's tough enough to find AMA items on line, and it's disheartening to see someone else run up the price."

If you find an AMA item on eBay that you would like to buy for the museum, please – first contact:

Jerry at: [wildman@pstbbs.com](mailto:wildman@pstbbs.com)

Let him know that you intend to bid and hopefully Jerry will be able to tell you if anyone else is bidding.

The museum recently did receive several items which had been bought on eBay: a 1944 and 1959 *Recall* were secured and a report card dating from 1898 when the school was called Augusta Classical and Military Academy.

Greg Pearce, '65, purchased and donated the yearbooks, and Wildman and Fancher donated the unique report card. Several people were bidding on the report card which ended up costing more than \$100.

There is no budget for the purchase of items to be displayed in the museum. All such items whether found in an antique store or on line must be purchased by individuals and donated to the museum.



From the 1933 *Recall*, this photo was titled: "Off for the afternoon," the AMA Cavalry on the march.

## AMA cadet saddle and tack, used by Ben Carlisle, '33

Pictured at left is an AMA cadet saddle, used when the Corps of Cadets had a cavalry unit in the '30's and through World War II. The plaque on the saddle, below, shows that it belonged to B. J. Carlisle, '33, but that's not

how he remembers it.

Carlisle, who lives in Tarboro, NC where he lived when he was a cadet more

than 70 years ago, says that AMA furnished the saddles and that they were not the property of any cadet. *"I don't recall that there were any kind of plaques on them,"* he said. *"We didn't get the same saddle or horse every time we rode, I don't think."*

The saddle is owned by a New Jersey man who bought it on eBay and who has no connection with AMA. Gary Marker was kind enough to bring the saddle to the AMA Museum so it could be photographed, but he has been unwilling to part with it.

Meantime, Jerry Wildman, '57, went on eBay and bid successfully for some of the tack that went with the saddle. The tack, which features an AMA eagle on the breast plate, also has a plaque on it saying that it belonged to Cadet Carlisle. The tack was a long way from Tarboro and Fort Defiance. *"It actually was being*



The breast plate on the tack. The tack has a plaque indicating that it was used by Cadet Carlisle.



Ben Carlisle,  
1933 *Recall*

sold by someone in Washington State," Wildman says.

Carlisle was assigned to D Company in his days at AMA and participated in company basketball and wrestling. He also played golf and was in the YMCA. He remembers well Hilton Roller Grasty, Colonel Tom Roller's daughter. *"My wife went to school with her,"* he says.

## The Roller Riders

# The Harley Boys hit the road again

By Bill Scarborough, '69

This past alumni weekend held a special meaning to more than a few former cadets. The conclusion of Reunion 2004 meant it was time for another adventure for the Roller Riders.

As a precursor to this year's event, it appeared the Roller Riders generated much enthusiasm and excitement. **Bruce Orenstein, '69**, and **Doug Pennock, '72**, enjoyed maiden voyages on Harleys through some of the beautiful Shenandoah Valley with a few of the Roller Riders, and they are hooked for sure.

Several other spouses and girlfriends enjoyed rides with us (It was, obvious that husbands and/or significant others wanted to "seal the deal" of "I want a Harley and so do you").

### **Breakfast with the Hemps**

This year's event had been months in the planning; ideas had been shared, logistics had been worked out, "All Present and or Accounted For" was heard Sunday morning as we commenced our journey. We started our ride with a wonderful breakfast at the home of Tom and Bruce Hemp (Stuart Hall, '72) on Walnut Meadow Farm just south of Staunton. The stage was set, a great "soupie" had been enjoyed by all.

Our next stop was at AMA for pictures for *The Bayonet* at the Front Arch. There, **Garry Granger, '72**, and **Gordon Metz, '68**, met us on the blacktop after their AMA Foundation meeting had concluded. The motorcycles were lined up in a fashion only understood by us and the pictures were taken. Several alumni stopped by for the photo session, some insisting they too would be Roller Riders if not next year, in the near future. In his own way, **Bob Bradford, '50**, aligned, re-aligned, and aligned again this rag tag bunch for just the right "Kodak moment".

Wives and friends waved as we took a "Parade Lap" around the bowl before heading off on Route 11. This



**READY TO RIDE -** Gathered at the Front Arch, The Roller Riders prepare for their trip through the backroads of four states. L. to r., Mike Kidd, '72; Gordon Metz, '68; Steve Bailey, '67; Garry Granger, '71; Mark Femrite, '71; Tom DelValle, '73; Rich Smail, '67, and Bill Scarborough, '69. Mount up, and move out!

may have been the most noise made on campus since the last parade of the Roller Rifles and the precision "tapping" of the butt plates as they marched with the precision that may never be witnessed again.

Our first destination was Princeton,

few rain showers. In Princeton, we met **Lewie Kennett, '72**, and his friend Jimmy Southall (another retired fire fighter). Over refreshments, Lewie was brought up to speed on the goings on at the reunion, and our plans for the week ahead.

### **Enthusiasm building**

The enthusiasm was building; no apprehension like the old days and maybe the Cherry Blossom parade, or our annual G.I. inspection. Garry Granger had been awarded (on merit) the responsibility of being the "Chief Negotiator" for our lodging requirements. Garry took this responsibility to heart and found us rooms a few hundred yards away. In customary Roller Rider fashion, we now considered our first day of riding complete, which meant it was refreshment time. Every required resource was readily available as we settled in for the evening.

Most of us made quick work on the "bright work" on our motorcycles after



WV, all via country roads. Gordon had done a skillful job mapping out a planned course that kept us away from major thoroughfares and extended to us some of the best scenery in the country. The ride was somewhat uneventful to Princeton other than a

the day of riding in and out of precipitation. The wonderful young gal at the hotel had advised us of the local entertainment, including a "shoe show" which we passed on. We decided to just hang out at the hotel, taking the chairs from our rooms to the "stoop" to continue the laughing and story telling well into the night. Other than **Tom Del Valle's**, '73, and Garry's lapse with reality by firing up their bikes at almost 11 PM to get them out of the rain, we had no real complaints from those around us. How wonderful it was to be with this group, and have all night lights! Many of us had never chatted much past 10 PM.

Day two started with the continuing downpour of the night before. It was literally coming down in sheets. Our enthusiasm didn't waver, we just headed for "soupie", and our negotiator confirmed the availability of one room for late checkout.

Now you must imagine all the gear neatly stacked in one hotel room. There were mounds of "stuff" everywhere as we watched the sky and the weather channel with a level of concentration some of us had never exhibited during our years in the Valley.

As one o'clock rolled around, the sun had broken through the clouds and it was decided we would head south, a few hours behind schedule, but no one appeared disappointed. Gordon led us through the countryside of West Virginia, back into Virginia for a short period, then into the North Carolina mountains.

#### Bald eagles

Our destination this evening was to be Elizabethton, Tennessee. At one point along the way, we witnessed a male and female bald eagle take off within 20 or so feet of our motorcycles. **Rick Smail**, '67, another seasoned vet of international travel (interpreters are helpful in this region), headed up the negotiating squad for this night's lodging. Rick emerged from the only hotel in town (you can fill in the blanks) with a smile. The front desk was overwhelmed with the

opportunity to fill six rooms for the night! During Rick's negotiations, a request for a restaurant was made.



**PARADE LAP - The Riders complete their drill field lap before heading out to Route 11.**

Much to our surprise, *Good Morning America* had just done a segment on a barbecue

**Photos by  
Rick Smail, '67**



chances of this ever happening? It was a total surprise. Fort Defiance, NC isn't a town, but rather the site of the former fort where General Lenoir was born, the man for whom Lenoir County was subsequently named. Smiles were abundant as we rode down this narrow country road past Fort Defiance.

It seems that Riders Roost presented the backdrop the Roller Riders needed for a real evening of "entertainment". Upon arrival several of us staked our claim to a cabin along the stream while others opted for a two man room in the bunkhouse nearby.

Again, our heritage and training were evident as we moved with precision unloading the bikes and making our "racks". Rocks were gathered from abandoned fire rings, and our own **Henry Femrite**, '72, commenced the construction of a firepit any mason would envy. A few

of the guys took off for a ride in the mountains and a necessary stop at



**WE'RE TEXAS BOUND - Tom DelValle, Gordon Metz and Garry Granger plot Tom and Garry's route back home to Texas.**

Later in the day, Jimmy's bike sprung a leak during one stop. Jimmy was amazed to find a small puddle of rice under his bike at this stop. Only a

Harley rider would truly appreciate such an event! The story telling went well into the wee hours.

Day three was intentionally a shorter day. Our destination today was Riders Roost Motorcycle Campground in the mountains of northwest North Carolina including a fly over at the scene of "Crash" Rosensteen's fearful wreck of a few years ago. This was a motorcycle-only campground where we had reservations and we looked forward to enjoying it. On our route to the campground, several of us noticed a road sign with an arrow indicating that Fort Defiance was directly on our route! What are the

(continued on page 70)

**Tribute from his West Point classmates**

# Doug Netherwood, '38, remembered

*Douglas Blakeshaw Netherwood, Jr. was just 43 years old when he died in 1963. He had graduated from AMA in 1938 where he had been a First Lieutenant in C Company, a member of the Honor Committee, the Honor Roll, and the rifle and track teams. Elected to Ad Astra his senior year, he received an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point from which he graduated in 1942.*

*His father was a brigadier general and when young Douglas first came to Fort Defiance, his father was stationed in Washington, DC. When Cadet Netherwood graduated in 1938, his father was assigned to Maxwell Field in Alabama.*

*His classmates at West Point prepared the salute to Colonel Netherwood which follows.*

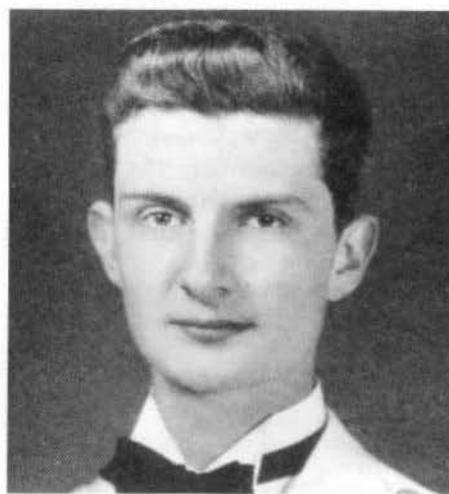
Douglas Blakeshaw Netherwood, Jr. was born in Dallas, Texas on 8 May 1920, the son of Brigadier General (then Major) Douglas Blakeshaw Netherwood, one of the nation's earliest pilots. He lived on various posts throughout the United States and the Philippines and graduated from Augusta Military Academy in 1938.

After graduating from West Point, and until 1947, he served in the China-Burma Theater. During this time, he prepared and rendered advice to the Research and Development Division, Chinese Combined Services Forces. Although assigned duties outside the field of his prior military specialization, and through his hard study, painstaking efforts, and long hours, he greatly assisted the general staff, Chinese Combined Services Forces. For this, he was awarded the Army-Navy-Air Force Medal, Republic of China and the Breast Order of Yun Hui, with ribbon, Republic of China.

Returning to the United States, Doug transferred to the Air Force and was assigned to the Strategic Air Command. This assignment with SAC

took him to bases throughout the United States, Goose Bay, Labrador, and to Okinawa during the Korean conflict. In these assignments, he had many duties of communications: base communications officer, communications engineering officer, etc.

Deciding that he had had his fill of temporary duty, and always eager to study, Doug applied to USAFIT, was accepted, and reported to Wright Patterson AFB where, in 1957, he graduated with his master's in engineering. Thereafter until 1959, he had



Cadet Douglas Blakeshaw  
Netherwood, Jr., 1938 Recall

duties with research and development at Wright Patterson.

Still Doug, who was lovingly nicknamed "The Brain" and "The Genius" by his friends, was not content with the little knowledge he felt he possessed. So, with that constant desire to learn more, and with his love of studying, he was sent to the University of Michigan where he received his doctorate in communications sciences. His next, and last, assignment was to Air Force Headquarters in the Pentagon. There, he was in charge of the Computer Section, under the Directorate of Science and Technology until his death on 19 July 1963.

The days and nights were just



Colonel Netherwood, USAF

never long enough for all of Doug's many interests, nor were his brief encounters. Each hobby was methodically studied and researched, and in Doug's case they included chess, hi-fi, bridge, photography, inventing games, woodworking, and collecting stamps, coins and butterflies.

#### Built his own sailboat

He built his own sailboat and sailed  
(continued on page 62)

#### Classmate Larry Kurtz

Doug was one of those classmates who reminded me of the values we try to live by as we meet the challenges of life: steadfast character; a willingness to help, and a warm friendship.

I knew he would be a success at everything he tried. His career in the Army and Air Corps was impressive, and had he been allowed to advance further in his career in the service of our country, I have no doubt that he would have made flag rank, and have made even greater contributions.

Captain Larry Kurtz, '38  
USN, Retired

# VISITORS



**IT'S ALL IN THE FAMILY** - Charles B. McCrum was a Master Sergeant on the PMS&T staff in 1947-48. His father was Major, later Colonel, H. B. McCrum, the Post Supply Officer who also taught mathematics. Charles was on active duty 1943-48, a rifleman in Company F, 301<sup>st</sup> Infantry, 94<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Shown above on a recent visit to the AMA Museum are McCrum, his wife, Arveta, daughter Victoria Tasker, granddaughter Michelle Mixson and grandson-in-law David A. Mixson.

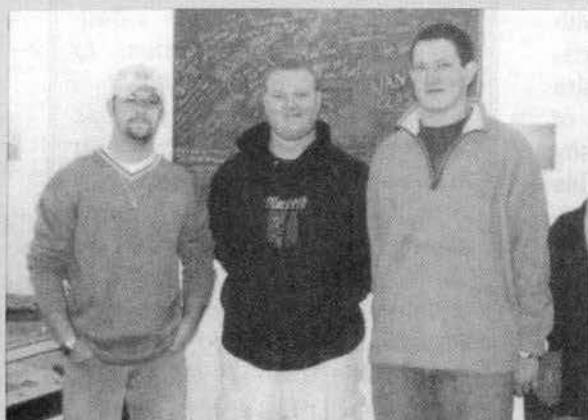
L. Charles McCrum when on the AMA PMS&T staff in 1947-48.



R., Major H. B. McCrum, 1947-48, AMA math teacher and Post Supply Officer.



**THE STARS OF THE CHAMBER** - R., the Augusta County Chamber of Commerce conducted its April meeting in the Alumni House Board Room.. We have found that being a member of the Chamber helps us in many measurable ways.



**SONS OF DOUG** - Shawn and Doug Pennock, Jr., sons of Doug, '72, visit the museum with their friend, Jeff King.



**NEW COMPUTER** - Faithful Alumnus Angus Hines, '42, came by the AMA Alumni House/Museum to drop off a new computer which he has donated. Thanks so much, Angus!

**MIDDLE SCHOOL** - Kids from Stewart Middle School in Fort Defiance visited the AMA Museum. Their teachers gave them a list of questions to which they could get answers only by looking through the museum.

# South Florida alumni plan Marlin events

Two alumni in South Florida have put together AMA events involving Sunday baseball games with the World Champion Florida Marlins.

**Jorge Rovirosa** and **Burt Glick**, both from the Class of 1970, have arranged for AMA alumni to have special seats and food at the July 11 game with the New York Mets and the September 5 game with the Chicago Cubs. Both games start at 3:05 PM, but the AMA events will start both Sundays at 1:30 PM.

"We are lucky that Burt has such good connections with the Marlins," says Jorge. "Our seats will be in the air conditioned Club Section in Pro Player Stadium and we'll have a full buffet of chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, salad, desert and soft drinks." There will be a cash bar.

Rovirosa says that since it is difficult for many of our Florida alumni to get back to reunions, they decided to have their own South Florida alumni get together. "I am going to be writing everyone in the area who is on our mailing list to invite them to one or both of these events," he says. A minimum of 50 people is needed for each event for it to be a go.

The cost for the game, the food and a contribution to the AMA Museum is \$50 per person.

For further information, contact:

In Fort Lauderdale/Broward County - Burt Glick at 888/ 270-0100. E-mail: [burt@advantage1mtg.com](mailto:burt@advantage1mtg.com)

In Miami/Dade County - Al Zayas, '72, at 305/ 260-9177. E-mail: [zayas72ama@aol.com](mailto:zayas72ama@aol.com) or

Ozzie "Coyote" Ferro, '53, at 305/ 888-2564. E-mail: [ferroozie@bellsouth.net](mailto:ferroozie@bellsouth.net)

Jorge and Burt are also looking for volunteers from Palm Beach, Monroe (the Florida Keys) and Orange Counties.

## Terror strikes a block away

When terrorists set off simultaneous blasts in several trains and train stations in Madrid this past March, Bob Guggenheim, '43, felt the blasts which shook Atocha Station, just a block away from his home. "It was 7:35 AM in Spain and our apartment house shook," he says, "then all hell broke loose. Fire engines, ambulances, police cars, all with sirens blaring... To make it worse, the bombs were on trains carrying the poorest workers from the outskirts of the city and students on their way to school," he says. He believes the bombs were set to go off when they did to influence the presidential election, only a few days off. "These bastards don't care who they harm," he says.

**Mickey Toms**, '67, says that his stepson, Peter Baxter, was traveling in Spain on a William and Mary/University of Virginia study tour when the bombing took place, but was not injured in the multiple explosions.

Peter earned AMA Legacy Scholarships in both 2002 and 2003.



**HONORARY DEGREE** - Virginia State Senator John Chichester, '55, center, received an honorary degree during William and Mary's annual Charter Day ceremonies on the Williamsburg campus. W&M President Timothy J. Sullivan is at left and Rector Susan A. Magill at the right.

Reported by Linda Roller Livick

## "Bip" Carstarphen, '52, Spirit of Carolinas man

**J. M. "Bip" Carstarphen**, '52, CEO of Pharr Yarns in McAdenville, NC, will receive the second annual Spirit of the Carolinas award at a banquet in Gaston, NC in October. Carstarphen came to Pharr in 1976 and has been CEO of the McAdenville-based fiber marker for 25 years, since 1979. The Spirit of the Carolina tribute recognizes a manufacturer in either North or South Carolina who has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to and has had marked success within the free enterprise system.

The award also takes into consideration leadership in a particular industry and good citizenship in the community.

Retired General Hugh Shelton will be the principal speaker at the awards dinner which is sponsored by the Gaston Chamber of Commerce.

Carstarphen came to AMA from Tarboro, NC. He was a sergeant in D Company, a member of the Roller Rifles, and on the swimming and lacrosse teams.

The Recall of 1952 described him as "one of the better NCOs, dependable, popular, humorous and willing to do all he can to make the Corps of Cadets the best," ethics which obviously he has carried into his career of choice.

**MARK YOUR 2005 CALENDAR NOW!**  
**THE AMA REUNION NEXT YEAR**  
**WILL BE 28 - 29 - 30 APRIL!**  
**THEME: 'TIL THERE ARE ONLY TWO**



**"Bip" Carstarphen  
1952 Recall**



**30 YEARS AGO** - It is 3 November 1974, and the late General Charles S. Roller, Jr. is being inducted into the VMI Sports Hall of Fame. The Big Boy was captain of the famous 1901 Keydet football team and represented the oldest class in the Hall of Fame. Above, the General's granddaughter, Linda Roller Livick, accepts on General Roller's behalf, the commendation from VMI Superintendent Major General Richard Irby.

### Netherwood *from page 59*

it for several years when he was stationed at Tampa. His home was filled with his own paintings, and his homemade furniture adorned his residence. Doug played piano, flute and guitar and composed music for all three. In addition, he wrote poetry, novels, and articles that were published in scientific journals. And yet, with all those numerous pursuits, he always had time for hikes, picnics, trips, and games with his children in the backyard pool in McLean near the Pentagon, a pool he had designed and built himself, and in which he accidentally drowned.

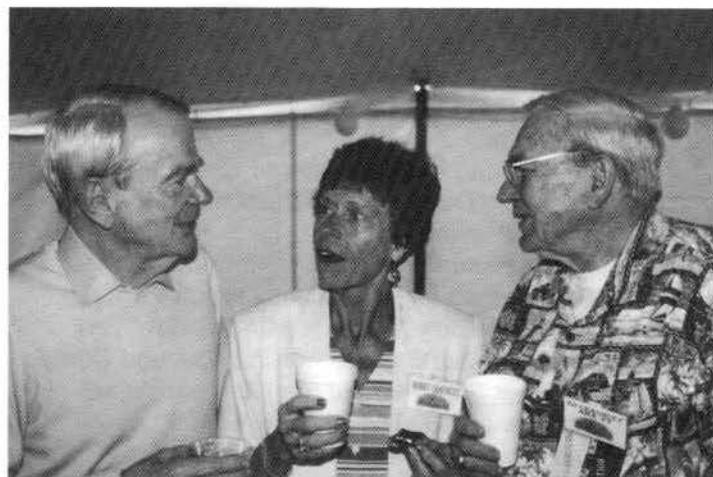
Doug is survived by his wife, Anne, who lives in Montreal, and by six children: Douglas, Marshall, Jay Steven, Patricia, twins Paul and Bruce, and Margaret.

We will always remember Doug as a true friend, an honorable soldier, a loving father, and an ideal husband. But, most of all, we are grateful – grateful for the years we shared together with him. Those too short years were happy ones filled with patience, understanding guidance, kindness, thoughtfulness, love, and laughter which Doug so generously gave to all of us.

*The gift of God is eternal life*

- Romans 6:23

Anne Netherwood, wife



**CATCHING UP** - Classmates John "Jock" Shirley, left, and Ed Chauncey, right, both '49ers, share old times as Bobby Chauncey looks on unbelieving. Jock is retired from the diplomatic service having been head of the United States Information Agency (USIA) and U.S. Ambassador to Tanzania.

*You send us the boy; we return to you the man.*

A military school advertisement

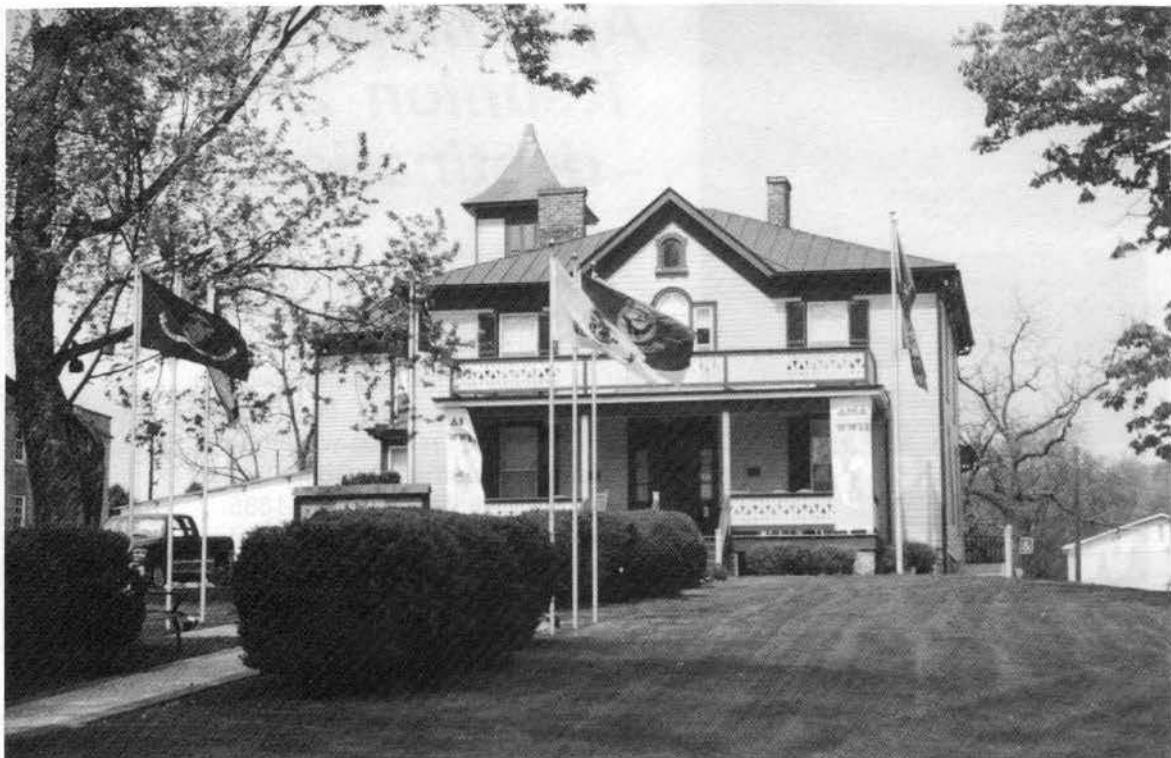
*A poem by Dr. John Morris, '49*

You will know that boy on sight.  
In the advertisement  
The same familiar gray  
Half-inch face  
Always arises  
Out of its bell-hop collar –  
The type of the boy  
You are to send them  
For the man in return.

They have kept that boy  
In print these fifty years  
In the back of the *Times*  
Magazine section and in the *Geographic*.  
His head turned a bit to the right  
And up, he stares at something  
Serious a long way off.  
You are the man  
Returning the gaze, Unwearying,  
He goes on  
Being about fifteen  
Forever, knowing  
He will never return.



**HOW MUCH?** - This little tower has made \$7,000 for AMA! Incredible as it sounds, it's true. How on earth could this be true? Read all about it on page 17.



**EVERY DAY IS FLAG DAY!** - The flags will fly day and night at the AMA Alumni House/Museum all through the summer months. As required by proper flag etiquette, lights have been installed to permit flag display around the clock.

## Next board meeting in Martinsville; all invited

The next meeting of the Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association Board of Directors will be in Martinsville, VA on Saturday 18 September.

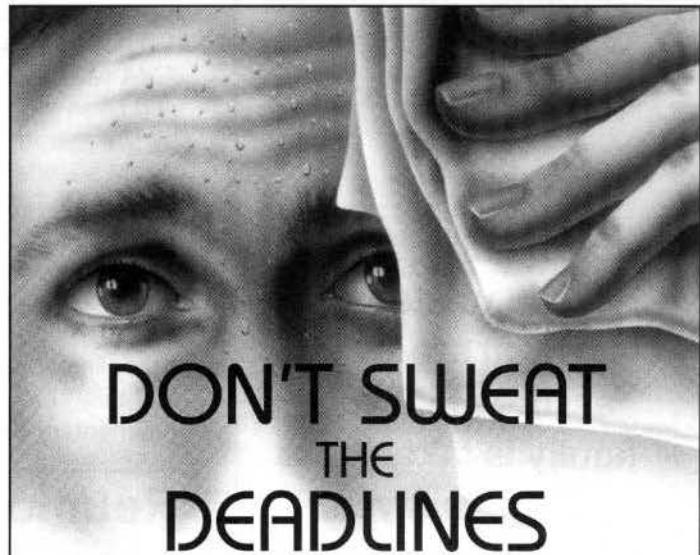
That evening at 6 PM, Brenda and **Gordon Metz, '68**, will host a party to which all AMA alumni are invited.

The Board will meet at 10 AM says President **Garry Granger, '71**. "It is wonderful for Gordon and Brenda to offer to host our folks," he said. An official notice will go out to Board members calling the meeting and advising of the specific location.

**IMPORTANT:** Those who plan to attend the Metz party **MUST RSVP** to Gordon's office: 276/632-8567. They need to know how many to plan for at the party.

## Tom DelValle, '73, to put the Roller Rifles back on the field

The Roller Rifles marching again on reunion weekends? That's the dream of **Tom DelValle, '73**, one of the AMA participants in the knock out drill with Massanutton's Drill Team during Reunion 2004. Tom wants to get a group of the willing together to work on maneuvers before the next reunion. More in the next *Bayonet*. Interested? Contact Tom at: [tomrdelvalle@attbi.com](mailto:tomrdelvalle@attbi.com)



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## Exercise your WILLPOWER

## Making a bequest

is often the best option for individuals who want to create an enduring legacy at AMA.

Everyone needs a will, no matter what age you are. A will assures that your family is taken care of and that your wishes are honored.

Please include the AMA Alumni Foundation in your will.

## Appomattox is Reunion 2005 destination

**Frank Williamson, '60**, Chairman of both Reunion 2004 and 2005, has announced that the theme for next year's reunion will be: *'Til there are two*, a repeat of the popular program presented a few years back. Highlighting the 2005 reunion will be a trip to historic Appomattox Court House where the Civil War ended in 1865.

Leading the tour will be the Saturday speaker at this year's reunion, Dr. Mary DeCredico, head of the History Department at the Naval Academy, an expert in Civil War history. (see story at right) "We are so very fortunate to have Dr. Mary with us on this trip," says Williamson. "That she is willing to take time from her busy schedule to go on this trip with us affirms her high regard for AMA and our heritage."

The visit to Appomattox will take place Friday 29 April, just days after the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of General Lee's surrender. Details in the next *Bayonet*.

The day before the war's end, AMA's founder **Charles S. Roller, Sr.** had been slightly injured and captured by Union troops near Appomattox. He was a prisoner of war for just one day. Professor Roller came back to the Shenandoah Valley to find the land devastated, crops and buildings destroyed, and scores of Confederate soldiers who had missed years of schooling while off at war. Within four months, he began to teach, the rudimentary beginnings of AMA.

## Reunion profitable for the AMA PX

The AMA PX at the AMA Museum and its satellite operation at the Holiday Inn took in some \$2,400 during Reunion 2004, plus about \$250 was deposited in the donations box.

**Gary Nicholson, '70**, and **Master Sergeant Don Studer** were pleased that many AMA related items were purchased by reunion goers. Do you need something from the PX?



AMERICAN PROFILES

## Mary Boykin Chesnut

*A Confederate Woman's Life*

MARY A. DECREDICO

## Dr. DeCredico book now for sale at PX

Dr. Mary DeCredico, head of the History Department and Assistant Dean at the US Naval Academy, has written a wonderful book about Mary Boykin Chesnut, a South Carolina woman who kept a remarkable diary throughout the Civil War.

The work is part of the American Profiles series from Madison House. Dr. Mary has been kind enough to sign a number of her books which are now for sale at the AMA PX for \$30 per copy. Order by phone at 540/248-3007, by FAX at 540/248-4533, or by e-mail at: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com. MasterCard and VISA OK.

## Bill Hill ill, missed reunion

We wondered what had happened to **Bill Hill, '50**, who had registered for Reunion 2004, paid the requisite fees, but then failed to show up.

As we were going to press, we learned that Bill had suffered a ruptured appendix which had him in the hospital for eleven days. He reports that he is back home now and feeling much better. He lost 15 pounds during his ordeal. Already, he is making plans to get back for Reunion 2005 which will be the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his graduation from AMA. He was C Company Commander his senior year and was elected to *Ab Astra*.

# Humberto Perez, '56, recounts life after AMA

Humberto Perez, '56, recently penned a long e-mail to his friend, Duke Fancher, '58, detailing what has happened to him since he left AMA 48 years ago.

After attending LSU for a year studying petro-chemical engineering (as the 1956 *Recall* predicted), he transferred to the Missouri School of Mines, and finally back to Venezuela in 1958 to "study" at Central University. "There, I started racing cars and it seemed like I should be studying mechanical engineering if engineering was the way I was going," he says. In the summer of 1960, he accompanied his Dad to the Olympic Games in Italy, and when he came back he decided to enter the Milwaukee School of Engineering in the diesel tech program.

There, he met and married Beatriz, a beautiful girl from Costa Rica and 42 years later, they are still married, and happily so.

In 1964, Humberto went to work for the electric power company in his hometown, Barquisimeto, Venezuela. Two years later, it was back to Milwaukee for an advanced degree which he got in 1969. He then returned to his home country for the next 15 years, the last five as Maintenance General Manager of the Ports Authority.

In December of 1984, Humberto and his family came back to the US for good. "Our two children were in school here and were married, so we wanted to be close to them," he says. They now live in Dallas.

When Humberto first arrived in Texas, the job situation was tight and he couldn't find employment as an engineer.

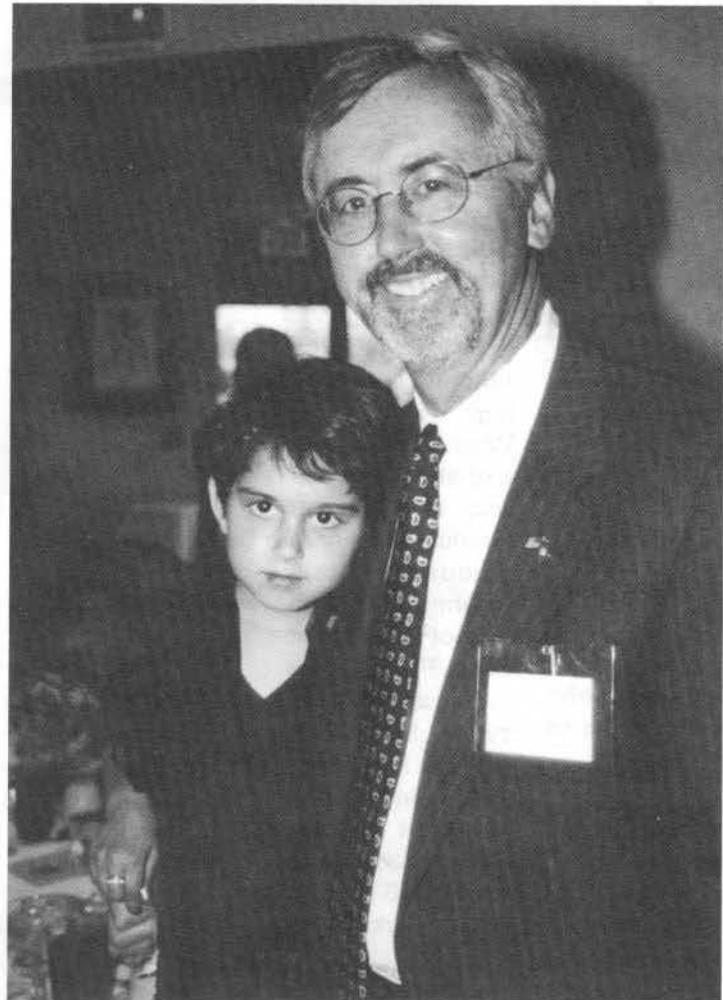
Finally, in 1990, he went to work at the University of Texas at Dallas as Maintenance Engineer and has since become Plant Engineer and a project manager. He turned 65 in January but needs to work a couple more years to have a good retirement.

In 1995, his daughter married a fellow from Raleigh, NC and while spending Christmas with them, he rented a car and drove to AMA, the only time he has been back since he graduated 48 years ago. "Walking around the campus with my wife, I couldn't even talk," he recalls. "Just so sad... I was holding back the tears."

And now, he is starting to plan for a trip back to Fort Defiance in 2006 on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his graduation!



**Humberto Octavio Perez,  
'56 *Recall***



**LADY OF SPAIN** - Francisco Curtis Toms will be six years old in July, and already she seems to have her Dad, Mickey Toms, '67, wrapped around her finger. This photo was made at the Awards Banquet at Reunion 2004 and Mickey says, "The dress, her choice, with a matching shawl and heels, came from our recent trip to Spain. Yes, she has a mind of her own."

## Scholarships *from page 33*

Spigle, the daughter of the late Mark Spigle, '74, told of her trip to Nicaragua over spring break, organized by leaders from her dorm at the University of Virginia. "We were in the 'bush' for a while spending time with farmers' families, picking red beans, milking cows, shucking corn, and harvesting sugar cane," she reports. "It was enlightening to see the lifestyle in a third world country... We made many new friends and learned a lot about their culture."

She expressed her gratitude for what AMA did to further her education: "It has been wonderful having the support of AMA during these last two years of college... I feel that I have been inducted into the AMA family. Thank you for everything."

Spigle was presented with a scrapbook about her father during the Awards Banquet, a scrapbook which had been assembled by Jane (Mrs. Phil) Wharton.

**From 1944**

## Colonel Richard Hobbs has Reno radio talk shows

From Reno, Nevada comes a letter from **Colonel Dick Hobbs, '44**, to the 1944 Class Agent **Bill McOwen**.



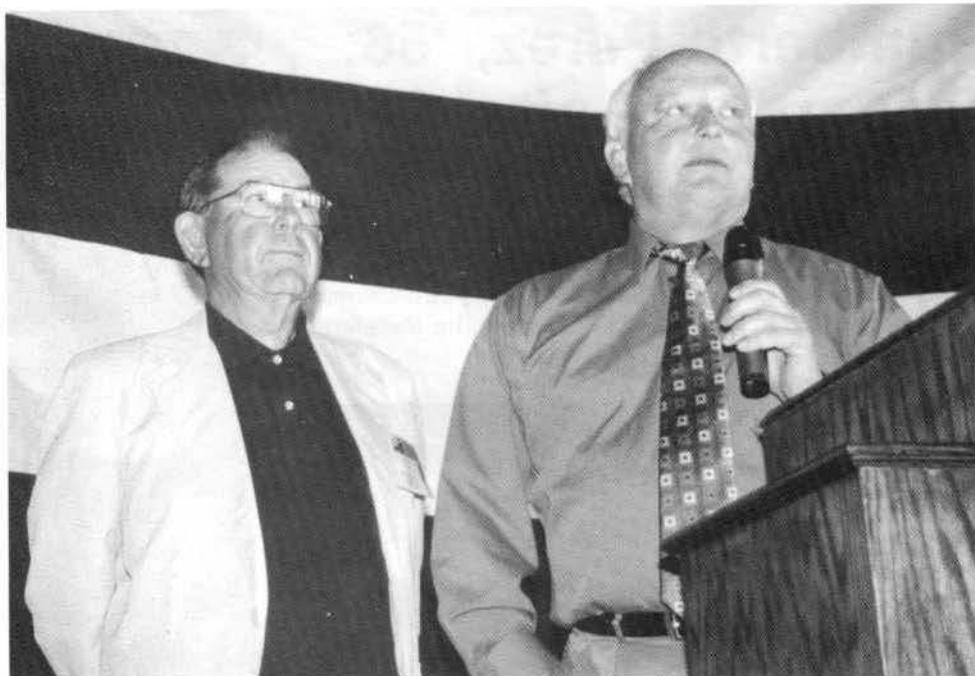
**Cadet Hobbs in 1944 was in E Company.**

He didn't make it back for his 60<sup>th</sup> reunion at Augusta this year because he was attending his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the US Military Academy, held the same weekend as AMA Reunion 2004.

Hobbs was commissioned in the infantry where he served in airborne, pathfinder and ranger units. He went to France on a scholarship, taught at the US Military Academy, had two duty tours in Vietnam, was assigned to The Pentagon, and had a three year assignment with the State Department Middle East Bureau.

This last assignment prepared him for one of the two radio talk shows he does: a Saturday show on World Conflicts.

He also does an art talk show with his wife. If you're in the Reno area, look for Colonel Hobbs on your radio dial! [ColDoc@worldnet.att.net]



**TRUSTEES AT REUNION 2004** - Above, Bobby Rhea, '47, and Gordon Metz, '68, were trustees of AMA when the school was forced to close in January of 1984. Below, Metz reads a certificate of commendation to Colonel Bill Sedr for the work Sedr did in getting AMA's cadets placed in other nearby schools when AMA closed.



**THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
28-29-30 APRIL 2005  
SAVE THOSE DATES NOW FOR AMA'S 2005 REUNION**

# Ken Hoke, '54, and football at Augusta

By Kenneth Hoke, '54

I attended AMA from January 1948 through June 1954. During the early years Augusta was the perennial state champion in football with many, if not all, of the players recruited by major colleges and sent to Augusta for added development.



**HOKE GOES FOR BROKE** - Ken Hoke (35) gains yards against the Roanoke Catholic High School in the fall of 1953. Thanks to Ken, AMA won 14-0.

Kentucky and had his picture on a national football magazine cover. **Dick Nolan** became an All American at Maryland and later became head coach at Maryland, then head coach for the San Francisco 49ers. The Augusta head coach was **Jerry Claiborne** who later became head coach at Kentucky and later at Virginia Tech.

This all changed in 1952, my junior year at Augusta. For a reason unknown to me, the school de-emphasized athletics, but maintained the same demanding football schedule, which included colleges, junior colleges and major high school programs throughout the state of Virginia. Our team in 1952 was composed entirely of "run of the mill" students who had never played football and no one weighed over 160 pounds. I weighed a whopping 145 pounds in full uniform.

We did not have enough players so anyone good enough to start had to play both offense and defense. I was the quarterback on offense and the line backer on defense in addition to punting and holding for the extra points. In my first game I threw a touchdown pass to **Hunter Cox**, but I never saw him catch the pass, or his run for the touchdown, as I had been knocked unconscious and suffered a mild concussion.

Over the course of two years we only managed to win one game even though we had a core of outstanding athletes. **Doc Bramwell, Chip Ray, John Bell, John Fitts, Hunter Cox, F. E. Wirkus**, to name a few. Any one of these would have made first team on most football pro-

grams, but without a full squad of players and the murderous schedule, the best they could do was to play hard and have fun.

I still recall many of the games, but the individual plays that stand out the most are my first touchdown pass described earlier and my best open field tackle on our 25 yard line. The runner fumbled the ball when hit and it flew into our end zone. Our opponents recovered the ball for a touchdown. We had a chance to win the game with Miller School, but then I fumbled the ball on their one yard line going for a quarterback sneak. Our most embarrassing play was a touchdown we scored against Emory and Henry College. Augusta was called for a penalty on the play and Emory and Henry took the play rather than the penalty. Final score: Augusta 14, Emory and Henry 60!

Another standout play involved **John Bowers**, our half-back. John returned to our huddle after carrying the ball for a short gain and he was visibly upset. He said "give me the GD ball again". I called the same play and John ran 40 yards for a touchdown. I wish John had gotten angry more often.

Needless to say not many players got much attention from the college recruiters, though I did have a letter from Duke University indicating an interest in me. However, my football career ended one night in a game against E.C. Glass in Lynchburg where I tore the ligament in my right knee. Oh well, Duke managed very well without my services, as they recruited Sonny Jergensen to play quarterback. You might remember that Sonny also played a little quarterback for the Philadelphia Eagles and the Washington Redskins!

After graduation I went to the University of North Carolina where I wrestled four years and became the captain of the team my senior year.

I understand that Augusta returned to being a major football power in the sixties and seventies. Can anyone tell me if they returned to accepting college recruits?



**RETIRING UNDEFEATED** - Ken and Dottie Baker at Reunion 2004. They were the only ones who showed up for tennis this year and therefore declared themselves to be the 2004 tennis champions by default!



**Ken Hoke,  
'54 Recall**

# Augusta memories...

Our memories in this issue come from old *Bayonets* from the classes which will be honored at Reunion 2005. See if you remember...

## 70 years ago - 1935

The *Recall* has gotten away to a good start with the following appointments made recently: **Julian Quarles**, Editor-in-Chief, **Ralph Greely**, Assistant Editor-in-Chief, **Dick Miller**, Business Manager, **Bob Byers**, Advertising Editor. With the cooperation of everyone, the *Recall* has excellent promise of maintaining the high standard it has set in the past years.

## 60 years ago - 1945

Augusta will have a new football coach this year in the person of **George A. "Buck" Chapman** who comes to AMA from our old rival, Staunton Military Academy. While at SMA this last year, he coached their football eleven to a tie with AMA. His teams also did quite well in basketball and football.

## 50 years ago - 1955

The *Bayonet* won First Place Honors at the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Southern Inter-scholastic Press Association meeting at Washington and Lee. **Steve Tomasek** and **Roy Pope** represented Augusta at the meeting. The *Bayonet* won first place honors in the National Scholastic Press Association judging last year.

## 40 years ago - 1965

Winning second place at the George Washington Day celebration in Alexandria is only one of many honors earned by the AMA Color Guard... composed of **Dick Browner**, **Ted Evans**, **Kent Jackson**, **Dave Elms** and **Greaner Neal**. Under the control of **Mister Hutton**, the Colors constantly practice in order to maintain their high standards of precision.

## 35 years ago - 1970

*Ad Astra per Aspera*, the only fraternity at AMA, held its first reunion since 1960 on the weekend of May 9. They had a buffet luncheon Sunday in the Mess Hall. Sunday Dress Parade was held in honor of the *Ad Astras* in which all companies received first place.. The highlight of the weekend was the formation of the AMA Alumni Association. **Parker Ward** was elected the first president and plans to use the graduating class of 1970 for the nucleus of the Association.

## 30 years ago - 1975

Augusta's Jayvee basketball team under **Lieutenant William Bullock** soundly defeated Massanutten with scoring leaders **Jim Mitchell**, **Andre Allen** and **Mike Bocock** leading the way, and Andre the top rebounder... In a 70-34 victory over Tandem School of Charlottesville, the stars were **Charlie Livick**, **Thomas White** and **Larry Nicholson**. While losing only one starter by graduation, next year looks promising.

## 25 years ago - 1980

A rock and roll band has been formed at AMA and their first appearance was at the AMA-Fishburne basketball game. The band calls itself "Tejas" and has **Jeff Burgess** on drums, **Mark Pitt** on guitar, **Brad "Zeppelin" Dement** on electric guitar, and **Kevin Kilroy** is the lead vocalist... For now, the lack of a bass player is holding them back. But with managers like **Gary Laffen** and **Lance Butler**, and a musical arranger like **Tony Beneventi**, the problem should be solved in the near future.



## Deaths reported May 2003-2004

The deaths of these Augusta alumni, faculty and friends  
have been reported to us over the past year

John Burke O'Donnell, '24, 26 April 03  
Louise Hulvey-Smith, widow of Herb Hulvey, owner of The Fort, July 03  
Leo Baydush, '25, 10 June 03  
Virgil Ward Anderson, '28, 2 October 03  
Thomas Willingham, '28, 16 December 94  
Robert Motta Cardoze, '30, 29 July 03  
Harry George, Jr., '31, 6 December 03  
J. Rupert Fulton, '34, 5 February 04  
Hiram Oliver Lyne, '34, 9 January 04  
William Crawford, '35, PX Manager, 1 September 03  
Frank L. Horton, '36, 21 February 04  
Winston "Ned" Somerville, '36, 11 May 03  
Nathan Parkins Crawford, '37, 31 January 03  
Charles P. Ford, '37, 25 April 97  
Alexander Sansosti, '37, 6 February 04  
Guy "Willie" Welliver, '37, 24 February 04  
Harold E. Young, '39, 4 June 03  
Stacey M. Hankey, Jr., '42, 5 March 02  
Irvin F. Etscorn, '42, 1975  
Jorge Aguilera, '43, 1986  
Samuel J. Caprette, Jr., '43, 28 August 01  
Herbert McCawley, '43, 24 April 03  
Clay Welker, '44, 17 February 04  
Edward T. Lemmon, Jr., '45, 19 March 04  
I. W. Phillips, '45, 5 December 03  
A. Edward Wright, Jr., '46, 11 December 03  
Lester E. Zittrain, '46, 26 January 03  
Richard P. Horwitz, '47, 29 April 02  
Fred A. Oyler, '47, 15 January 04  
Cary Hancock, '48, 15 September 02  
Arthur N. Cohen, '50, 1992  
Albert Guffey, '50, 10 February 04  
Arthur C. Jenvey, II, '50, 27 November 03  
Wilmer Atlee Hill, '51, 20 March 04

Edward S. Woodward, '51, 26 October 03  
Andrew A. Raptis, Jr., '52, 13 June 03  
Bernard Y. Cockrell, '54, 11 July 03  
John C. Adams, '60, 22 November 03  
Russell A. Lyons, '61, 1 July 00  
Claiborne Willcox, Jr., '61, 24 March 03  
Joseph T. Crumpler, '62, 9 February 03  
James C. Williams, '65, 4 May 03  
Edward "Buster" Alston, '67, 2 April 04  
Marc H. Minkoff, '67, December 03  
W. DeWitt Campbell, '69, 4 March 04  
Owen H. Chekemain, '69, 1973  
Richard Schweitzer, '69, 5 April 04  
Thomas Gary McGinness, '73, 4 April 02  
Michael Minunni, '73, 6 July 03  
Major Marcus Anderson, faculty, 15 May 03  
Colonel Richard Bomberger, faculty, 02  
Etta Mollie Canevet, nurse, 28 March 03  
Colonel James Christy, faculty, 30 March 03  
James S. Farrow, faculty, 29 November 03  
Mae Rae Crawford, PX co-manager, 25 December 03  
Mary Kennedy McDowell, wife of James McDowell, '50, 15 December 03



Each for his own memorial  
earned praise that will never  
die, and with it, the grandest of  
all sepulchres: not that in which  
his mortal bones are laid, but a  
home in the minds of men.

## Harleys from page 58

the grocery store for the evening's "soupie". Henry, with the assistance of New Cadet Mike Kidd, '72, (aka, Go-for-the-Toolman), built a superb fire to bring the Brat's and Burgers from the store to the table.

Soupie was awesome! Supervision was more evident than ever as the bantering and the coaching roared equal to the fire. Henry Femrite spent several hours entertaining us with stories of a nature which only Henry could conjure up, his animation at times equal to the story line. It was during that evening's festivities that Lewie Kennett shared a revelation that sent shock throughout the group as only Lewie and his faithful sidekick Evan can do.

As a result of this "sharing of knowledge," Lewie has been appointed as the Official D.I. (Drill Instructor to those non-members). Maybe Lewie will explain this to any of those interested at a future time. As the evening progressed and the entertainment slowed, everyone headed for our rack having laughed until the pain was almost overwhelming. It is really amazing just how many "rations" can be packed on a motorcycle with a weeks worth of clothes.

### Breaking up

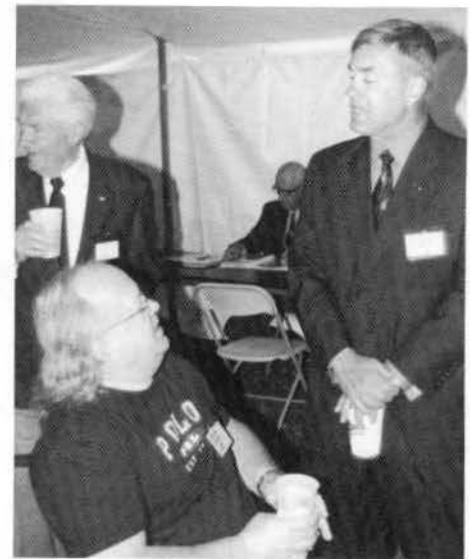
Day four brought our first separation. Garry Granger and Tom Del Valle would split off from the group as we neared Lenoir, NC. Garry and Tom had a long ride ahead of them to Texas. We pretty much took care of goodbyes as we left the campground and the dynamic duo split off down the road headed south. The remaining Riders set a course north by way of the Blue Ridge Parkway, no real destination in mind; we would ride until we felt like stopping. Several short intermissions were taken along the beautiful Parkway for "Kodak moments" and we finished our day in Mount Airy.

Some of you may remember Mount Airy as the home of Andy Griffith and the backdrop for Mayberry, RFD. We stayed at the Mayberry Motel, a nice little family owned operation that show-

cased the pride the owners had in the facility. Again we restocked the rations and settled in for another evening of camaraderie.

Gordon needed a battery charger, so a trip to the parts store was in order. This evening seemed to be the most somber of the trip. We all knew we had reached our last real night as a group. Tomorrow would bring the point where Rick Smail and Mike Kidd would leave us, Mike to Cleveland, and Rick to his parent's home in Pittsburgh.

Day five was started with another "Kodak moment" in front of a famous automobile at the hotel, then off to



**SERIOUS TALK** - Steve Trent, '70, talks with Allen Josey, '64, during Reunion 2004. In the background is Chuck Pine, '49.

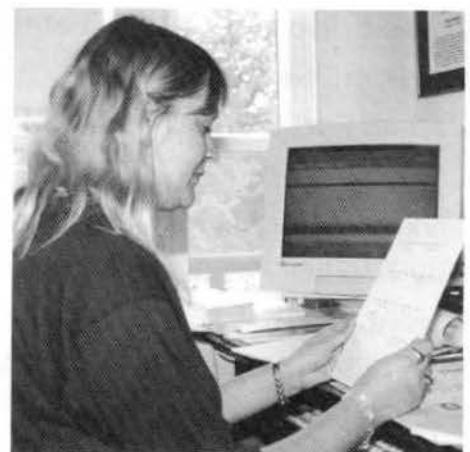


### BARNEY FIFE'S CAR?

breakfast. After eating, Rick and Mike headed over the hill, Lewie, Jimmy, Gordon, Henry, and Bill went north once again. As we worked our way to Virginia, Gordon broke off to fulfill a business responsibility. A little way up the road, Lewie and Jimmy split off destined for Burnt Chimney, VA. Henry and Bill continued on to Blacksburg for the comfort of the Femrite's home.

Day six started at the Femrites' in Blacksburg and Henry and Bill went "up the hill" to Floyd County to see the new home Henry has been building. After a walk of the property, Bill headed back to Staunton for the night, then home on Saturday, day seven.

Three members of the Roller Riders did enjoy some of the laughs, but were unable to make the trip, Tom Forrer, '67, Ed Longmire, '68 and New Cadet Steve Bailey, '67, were required to be AWOL due to weather or other commitments. It is doubtful either of these men will ever miss another opportunity to make the ride.



**SERIOUS INTERN** - Kim Adkins, a senior at Bridgewater, spent 120 hours volunteering at the AMA Museum this spring. She has enrolled in Old Dominion this fall and seeks a masters in history.

Since the reunion, Brett Thompson, '75, has purchased a Harley Ultra Classic and will be entering the next New Cadet class. It is rumored that Jorge Rovirosa, '70, is enrolled in the MSF class over Memorial Day weekend and will be joining Brett next year.

To all that couldn't make the trip, you missed a wonderful event. To those that would like to be a part of this "brotherhood", the only requirement is a motorcycle and the understanding of maintaining a proper formation!

Until next year...

## Meek from page 46

completed in 1896. There were 230 students, some of them truants, some who had done poorly academically elsewhere. It was a sort of second chance school." He taught social studies, coached the varsity basketball and softball teams, and was the athletic director and the computer coordinator for Concord.

In 1998, their second daughter, Christina Rose, came into the world, a young lady whose love of sports mirrored that of her proud Dad.

At Concord, Chris had a class of 31, each of whom had failed the New York State Regent Exam in 2000. He cajoled them, encouraged them and worked with them, and in 2001, 21 of the 31 passed the exam with five getting above 85% which earned for each of them a \$500 scholarship.

When a new principal was about to be hired, Chris, as the union representative, had opposed her. Hired nevertheless, she had it out for Chris from her first day on the job. "Her appointment was political and I knew that if I stayed too long, she would get me fired." But he didn't want to resign and leave his 31 kids before they took the Regent Exam. As soon as the scores were published, Chris made his move.

### To North Carolina

Chris' parents had relocated to North Carolina in 1989, so he tossed out his net over the Tarheel State, taking a job at Williston Middle School in Wilmington where he is today. "I've taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science and social studies and I coached the softball team for one season."

When he had begun to coach years earlier, he met some people who introduced him to officiating. In 1991, he became a referee for IAABO, the International Association of Approved Baseball Officials, and began working middle school and JV games. In 2000, he was selected to work the New York Public Schools Athletic League Playoffs, a singular honor. In the late '90's, Chris began to umpire for high school and recreational softball, going on to become a varsity and college official. Last year, he umpired at the ASA 10 Under Class A National Championships in Johnson City, Tennessee. In 2002, Chris also took up volleyball officiating.

All through these good times, two things gnawed continuously at Chris: the fact that he didn't get a diploma from the school he loved, AMA, and his weight. Weighing 197 when he left AMA, he gained weight



**Chris watches a fast break in the Wilmington City Youth Basketball League.**

that of her

proud Dad.

dangerously, at one time approaching 500 pounds. "I ate too much, I drank too much, I was too sedentary in my lifestyle and I had no discipline to cut back. I was miserable, had high blood pressure, was depressed and suicidal."

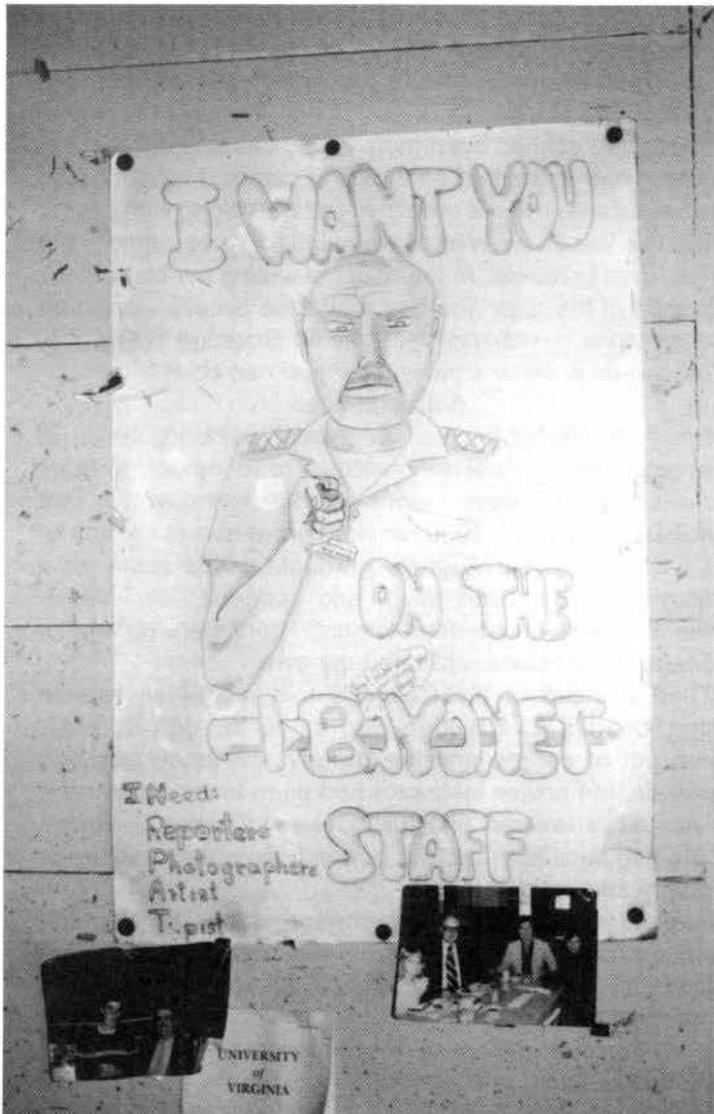
Then, he opted to have gastric bypass surgery. "Now," he says, "I am a svelte 282 and can run up and down the basketball court better than some of the kids who are players... Just don't get in my way!"

And the AMA diploma? Well, he got the next best thing at Reunion 2004 from Colonel Bill Sedr who was AMA's headmaster when the school closed. Twenty years after he was to walk across the gym stage to get his AMA diploma, Chris and his classmates from '84 got to take that walk on Saturday 24 April, and receive a special certificate from Sedr. Chris had worked tirelessly to get guys from his class to come back to the reunion and to locate others from the class who had been lost to AMA for years. Mission accomplished!

The future? "Doc Savedge is the reason I am a teacher.



**CHRIS weighed nearly 500 pounds when he decided to do something about it.**



**20 YEARS AGO - When AMA closed in January of 1984, this poster was left behind, just inside the Front Arch.**

I did not know he had died until the *Reader's Digest* article came out. He literally spoke to me from the grave... I want to teach and maybe be a principal one day. And officiate at sports events. That keeps mind and body in shape." Colleen also is teaching special ed and taking the course needed to make her teaching credentials current.

Chris sums up his love for Augusta Military Academy in one sentence: "If it had not been for AMA, I would either be in jail or dead by now."



### Savedge from page 48

the stark shadow of fear. His vulnerability was overwhelming. Five minutes before he was to deliver the opening lecture, he ground out the cigarette and drew in a breath. "Well..." he murmured, and headed for the door.

For the first time, I understood the enormous struggle that lay beneath his overpowering charisma. In just one of his "effortless" performances, he was overcoming more fear than I had ever imagined.

His lecture was brilliant: a fast-paced, supercharged symphony that had the audience laughing one minute, profoundly touched the next. For me, however, the great lesson was in those moments before the lecture. It was a lesson carved in stone – literally, above the archway at the Colonel's academy: *Ad Astra per Aspera* (By striving, you will reach the stars).

The motto echoed even more loudly years after I had left teaching and embarked on a writing career. I remembered how he'd dared me out onto the high wire along with driving home the lesson he lived: it was all right to be afraid – but never, ever to retreat. In the midst of writing my first article, I thought of the man who had made me believe I could do it. And today, I still think of Colonel Savedge telling me, "You can do it. What's more, only you can do it."

#### A shared gift

From all over came the "only yours" gathering on a hill overlooking the Colonel's hometown of Richmond to mark his passing, four days before his 68<sup>th</sup> birthday. On that warm December 13, 1990, each told a different version of the same story: the Augusta graduate who'd come as a delinquent to the headmaster and ended up as valedictorian "because he believed in me." There were dozens of colleagues who tales replicated my own.

Then a friend of the Colonel's told me of an intense young Charles E. Savedge who came to AMA in 1947. Fresh out of college and the military, extremely shy and uncertain, the novice instructor had been taken under wing by Augusta's revered principal, **Colonel Charles S. Roller, Jr.** He had sensed greatness beneath the young man's uncertainty and molded it.

Inspired, encouraged and challenged by his mentor, Savedge became the teacher he was meant to be: a man who changed a room simply by walking into it, who believed so completely in his many students and colleagues that we had no choice but to believe in ourselves. In part, everything I do is an attempt to find the person he saw that day 15 years ago when he looked at me and thundered, "I wish you could have seen your face!"

After that, nothing was ever the same.



## Greg Pearce remembers

# **Bracing, spit shining, studying and soccer**

Greg Pearce, '65, had to leave AMA halfway through his senior year because of family problems, and to this day he regrets not having graduated from AMA. "I have missed that all of my adult life," he says.

Pearce writes from Rockville, MD that he spent a lot of his time at AMA bracing on the stoops, studying his lessons, spit shining, and playing soccer. "My second year at AMA, I was on the wrestling team at a mighty 127 pounds," he says. He was also in the Roller Rifles.

Greg says that recent issues of *The Bayonet* have brought back a flood of memories... I have been going back to my *Recalls* to remember what some of my classmates looked like."

Greg retired from Verizon (Bell Atlantic/C&P) after 36 years in 2003. He had been a project manager and is now back doing part time contract work with Verizon. "I am double-dipping," he says gleefully.

The week before the 2004 reunion, Greg made the three hour drive from Rockville to visit the AMA campus and the AMA

Museum. He was there just as the flag project was being completed and made a \$350 contribution to purchase one of the flags and to pay the balance on the paver project. Then, he left another \$750 to be used to support our museum, so impressed was he with what he saw. Thank you so much, Greg.

## **It's Tomme Gamewell, that's who!**

We printed the photo below in the last *Bayonet* and wondered who it is. He must have been the Officer of the Day (OD) and he appears to be in the Guard Room.

**Dave Merenick, '57**, was the first to say it had to be **Tomme Gamewell, '54**.

But others thought it was someone else. Finally, we got it from the horse's mouth, or at least the horse's wife!

Jane Gamewell confirms that this is Tomme, and what is more, he still has the original picture. Thanks, Jane!



**FATHER AND SON - Greg and his father, Roscoe, in 1964. Dad is now 85.**



## The Village Blacksmith

# Jim McGavock, '46, plies old trade

By Betty Jo Hamilton

**Jim McGavock, '46**, a self-taught disciple of the coal forge, welds, melts and works iron the way blacksmiths did before machines took over many of these same tasks. McGavock's journey to his backyard Augusta Forge, located near Staunton, is one which includes time spent as a cadet at AMA.

During the fall of 1945, James Bowman McGavock and his brother **John Williamson (Bill) McGavock, IV** found themselves enrolled as new cadets at AMA. Jim's nametag read McGavock, J. while his brother's read McGavock, W. Since both of their first names started with J, Jim found himself marching his brother's tours. This did not sit well with the thirteen year old who grew up south of Clifton Forge. The other cadets in the corps had no trouble telling the McGavock boys apart, but the faculty and staff were not quite as adept at discerning the distinct differences between Jim and Bill.

Finally, Jim had to set the record straight and went directly to **Major Roller**. After discussing the situation with the Major, the misassigned tours were corrected and Jim's conduct sheet was void of any disciplinary notices. Had he returned the following year, Jim would have started the school year as a corporal.

Jim was a member of Headquarters Company and was a cadet waiter, serving breakfast, dinner and supper every day. Jim said he attended AMA when he and his siblings were living with his mother near Clifton Forge and his father was living in Staunton. His father was a plumber and while his crew was doing some extended plumbing work at AMA, the McGavock boys found themselves enrolled at the Academy.

### Great grandfather at New Market

Jim and Bill were not the first McGavocks to be enrolled in a military school. Their great grandfather, John Williamson McGavock, (the first), from Ft. Chiswell, VA, went to VMI at the tender age of 15 and was among those in the Corps of Cadets who fought at New Market. Jim's great grandfather's boyhood friend named Crockett was also one of the VMI cadets fighting at New Market. Crockett, unfortunately did not survive the battle. In an interview in

1936, a year before his death, the senior McGavock described the noise level and confusion of the battle that fateful day: "*Crockett was right beside me and I did not know when he was hit.*"

Earlier in the day when they were in formation and given



Photo by Rick Smail, '67

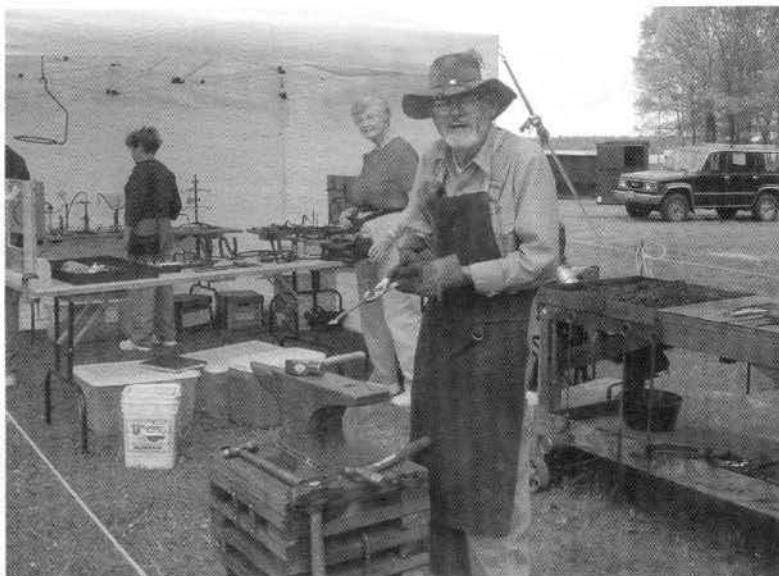
strict orders not to fire their muskets (probably Springfield muskets known to be very accurate at 400 yards), all of a sudden a rifle shot sounded. The commanding officer turned around to reprimand the VMI cadets and to ask who had not followed orders. McGavock readily admitted that he was holding the gun that had misfired, but it was a Yankee gun that he had just picked up off of the ground. He assured the officer that he had not fired his own rifle, but he still had the dubious honor of being the first VMI cadet to fire at New Market. The officer guaranteed that Cadet McGavock would have plenty of opportunities to pick up enemy rifles after the battle.

In the era when Jim's great grandfather was coming home from the War Between the States, blacksmiths wearing body-length smocks were a familiar sight. The sound of hammers pinging on iron would be an ordinary part of everyday life. Blacksmiths made everything – candle holders, doorknockers, hooks – that are made now by machine. But McGavock could hardly have known as a young man that he was headed down a path which would find him taking up a vocation from his great grandfather's lifetime.

After Jim left AMA, he returned to the Clifton Forge area and graduated from Clifton Forge High School. He worked on the family farm and then became a machinist apprentice for the C&O Railroad. He went into the service and enrolled in the OCS in 1952. Afterwards, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant of Engineers and received his training at Fort Belvoir, VA.

Always the consummate problem solver, Jim decided that the single life at Fort Belvoir was not for him. He secured a three-day pass, drove south to Botetourt County, and married his sweetheart, Louise Corell. After the wedding, everyone joked about them heading north (back to Fort Belvoir) for their honeymoon.

Upon his return to the base, Jim informed his commanding officer that he would be back the next day and went to



dividual to handle, Jim decided to work for himself for a year before signing on with Nibco, where he worked for almost 21 years. His job there was to fix anything that had an engine or wheels on it. Someone even brought in a wheelbarrow that he fixed! He fabricated many of his own pieces of equipment from just a pile of nuts and bolts. One such piece he affectionately calls the "sump sucker."

In 1996, three years after retiring, Jim began his work as a blacksmith. He'd been tinkering and making things work nearly all his life. Getting back to blacksmithing basics was not too much of a stretch for him. Jim's uncanny ability to create, weld, and solve problems blend well in the art of blacksmithing. He says he has always had a hankering for blacksmithing and has done welding all his life.

## ***Blacksmiths built most of the machines which made traditional smithing obsolete...***

secure housing for his new bride and himself in quarters reserved for married couples. The clerk would not however allow them to spend the night until they could show proof of their marital status. Fortunately, Louise had brought the marriage license and rushed out to the car to produce it for the clerk, who finally agreed to let them stay!

Upon completion of basic training, Jim was assigned to the 746<sup>th</sup> Engineer Depot in Granite City, Illinois, one of only two such depots in the world, the other being in Korea. While stationed at Granite City, Jim repaired all types of military engineering and construction equipment.

In 1954, the Korean War being over, soldiers were given the option of leaving military service after serving two years. Jim met that requirement, moved back to the family farm, and bought it in 1957. Ten years later he left, saying that "*the farm was too little to make a living and too big to give up.*" Jim, Louise, and their two daughters moved to the Staunton area where Louise taught school and Jim started working for Clark Equipment, a forklift company.

He was the sales and service center rolled into one individual. His job was to call on customers, secure a contract to repair their equipment, and then he was the one who had to fix the equipment!

After building a customer base too large for one in-



**46 Recall**

Jim says the running joke among traditional blacksmiths is that they're the ones who put themselves out of business. After all, blacksmiths built most of the machines which made traditional smithing obsolete. Blacksmiths always try to create something that will make things easier to do mechanically than to do by hand.

When asked what items he most enjoys making, he talks lovingly about a stand that holds a glass bowl, but regrets that he can no longer find the lotus looking bowls made from green glass created in Spain. Then, his eyes twinkled when he said he guessed he liked making trivets best because they require all three kinds of fastening techniques – welds, rivets, and collars.

Jim is working on items now to get ready for the Treasure Mountain Festival in Franklin, WV to be held the third weekend in September. The festival is Pendleton County's annual celebration of its unique mountain culture, and highlights customs that evolved from the 1700s.

Whether he and Louise are enjoying a ski outing, presenting demonstrations of traditional blacksmithing at craft fairs, or volunteering at a local food pantry, Jim finds the time to tend his coal forge.

He's constantly working it – finding the right touch, the right heat, and the right balance to create one-of-a-kind works of art.



**NO CUBAN CIGARS?** - Five Cuban-American AMA alumni had lunch together in late May in downtown Miami where they discussed the forthcoming South Florida AMA Alumni get together at Florida Marlin games in July and September. (See story on page 61) Shown above, l. to r., Sergio Fernandez, '56, who works in New York, lives in New Jersey, and was vacationing in Miami; Al Zayas, '72; Jorge Rovirosa, '70; Manuel Balbis, '53; and Ozzie "Coyote" Ferro, '53.



**SOUTHWEST VIRGINIANS** - At the Thursday reception at the Staunton Country Club during the reunion, Jess Porter, '64, from Appalachia and Jane and Phil Wharton, '63, from Wise share their pride in the beauty of Southwest Virginia.



Garry Granger, '71, the President of the AMA Alumni Association, presides at the Friday Awards Banquet.



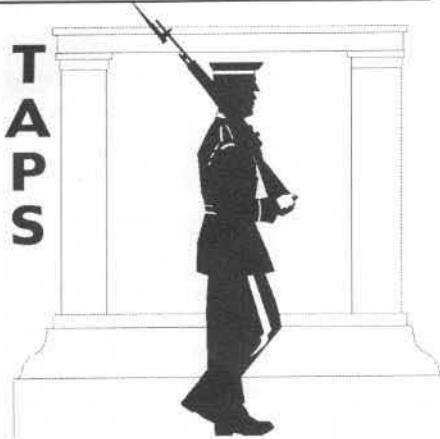
**49ERS LOOKING FOR GOLD** - Ed Chauncey, '49, and Bobby loving every minute of Reunion 2004!



**MARC MY WORD** - Marc Mehler brought his incomparable collection of military vehicles to the campus for the reunion and took time to explain their operation to a group of 7<sup>th</sup> graders on tour.



**THE PRAYER BREAKFAST** - Betsy and Dave Trimble, '60, of Richmond at the Sunday Prayer Breakfast during Reunion 2004.



**Please report deaths and illnesses of AMA alumni, faculty and friends to  
The AMA Chaplain  
Frank Spencer, '49  
318 Harvest Drive  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
804/977-0026**



**Willingham,  
1928 Bayonet**

**Thomas Willingham, '28**  
16 December 1994, in Rome, GA. No details. At AMA: 2nd lieutenant, A Company, Golf Club, Half Acre Club, Tennis Club.

**Rupert Fulton, '34**

5 February 2004, at the Rockingham Memorial Hospital, Harrisonburg, age 86. University of Virginia Schools of Commerce and Law. Served in five European campaigns in World War II. Associated with the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company for many years before taking management positions at the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company, Mobile Corporation, and Esmark, Inc. After retiring in 1972, he returned to the family home in Augusta County where he operated a farm. Survived by his



**Fulton,  
'34 Recall**

wife, Mattie Moore McGowan Fulton; a daughter, Jane Fulton of Greensboro, NC; a son, William Fulton of Grottoes; a sister, Olga Fulton of Richmond; and two grandchildren. A day student, he attended AMA for four years, was on the Honor Roll on every report card. Tiger Basketball and Peep Football. Reported by Julian Quarles, '35.

**Frank L. Horton, '36**

21 February 2004, in Winston-Salem, NC, age 86. Founder of the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts and contributor to the restoration of Old Salem. After AMA, he attended the New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, NM before attending Pace Institute (now Pace University) in New York City where he studied business. Served aboard a destroyer escort in World War II. He was the first director of the New Salem Museum, a position he held for 20 years. In spite of a long battle with Parkinson's disease, he re-

### **Death takes Three Rivers Stadium architect, museum founder, restaurant owner, music man**

mained active as an advisor to the museum until his death. Received the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the North Carolina Award in Fine Arts. He received an honorary degree from Wake Forest in 1995, and in 1997, Old Salem named its new museum complex in Mr. Horton's honor. Survived by his sister-in-law, Ruth Horton of Blacksburg, VA.

**Alexander Sansosti, '37**

6 February 2004, at Friendship Village in Pittsburgh. He was an architect who oversaw the construction of Three Rivers Stadium in the Steel City. Served in the Seabees in World War II where he was on the personal staff of Admiral William "Bull" Halsey. As a swimmer, he set many interscholastic records. He attended AMA and VMI on scholarships, and majored in architectural engineering at the Institute. After military service, he worked for a

while with PPG Industries, then opened his own architectural firm. In the 1960's, he was the supervising architect for construction of Three Rivers. Survived by his wife, Linda Pizzi Sansosti, and a cousin, Darius Sansosti. At AMA, swim team and Monogram Club.

**Guy Minier "Willie" Welliver, '37**

24 February 2004, at Hagerstown, IN, age 85. University of Virginia, majoring in chemistry.

Navy corpsman in World War II doing malaria research in Brazil. After the war, he purchased a small restaurant in Hagerstown and expanded it over the years to seat 500. The Indiana Restaurant Association honored him for a half

century of restaurant ownership. Survived by a devoted companion, Louise Newton; three daughters, Margaret Purvis, Mary Welliver and Janie Welliver, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. At AMA, Platoon Sergeant, Band Company; basketball, *Recall*. staff.



**Welliver,  
'37 Bayonet**



**Aquilera,  
'43 Recall**

**Jorge Aquilera, '43**  
In 1986. With his brother, Enrique, owned a company called Equipment for Industries representing Allis-Chalmers pumps and starters. At AMA, 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant, cavalry; secretary, Student Body;

cheer leader; swim team, Cotillion Club, Honor Committee, minnow and JV football; assistant leader, 1943 Final Ball Committee.



**Clay Welker, '44**  
17 February 2004,

**Welker,  
'44 Recall**

Greensboro, NC. No details. At AMA Corporal, C Company. Reported by his roommate, Bill McOwen, '44.

**Edward Travis Lemmon, Jr., '45**  
19 March 2004, at home in Suffolk, VA, age 76. Owner of Suffolk Oil Company until his retirement in 1992. He and his son, Ted, acquired the Sting Ray Restaurant on the Eastern Shore in 2001. Drafted into the Army when he graduated from AMA, he was released in 1946 and enrolled at Virginia Tech. Graduated in 1950 with ROTC



Lemmon,  
'45 Recall

commission, served during the Korean War. Employed by Esso (Standard Oil) and later was a commissioned agent for Esso. Predeceased by his wife, Emily, he is survived by four children: Virginia "Jinks" Babey, Edward "Ted" Lemmon, Douglas Leed and Richard Lemmon; seven grandchildren: Emily "Kate" Leed and Travis Leed, Elizabeth, Meredith and Brian Babey, and Jordan and Joshua Lemmon. At AMA, platoon sergeant, A Company, basketball, football, baseball. Senior year, basketball manager.

**I. W. Phillips, Jr., '45**



Phillips,  
'45 Recall

5 December 2003, in Brandon, FL. No further details. At AMA: Best New Cadet, swim team, and, according to the 1945 *Recall*, "the only cadet to ever get a 95 in Spanish from Colonel Hoover."



Oyler,  
'47 Recall

**Fred A. Oyler, Jr., '47**  
15 January 2004, in Roanoke. No other details. Reported by his wife, Bess. At AMA: Tech sergeant, B Company, Honor Committee.

**Richard P. Horwitz, '47**  
18 February 2004, in Richmond. No other details. At AMA: B Company. Reported by sister, Edythe Hoffman.

**Cary W. Hancock, '48**  
15 September 2002, in Brookeville, MD. No details.

**Albert L. Guffey, '50**  
10 February 2004, at the Augusta Medical Center, after a long illness, age 71. Served in the Navy during the Korean War. Returned to Staunton in 1955 to become owner of NuWay Mattress Company. Survived by his wife of 42 years; a daughter, Amy Darby and a brother, Colonel Howard Guffey. Lived in Verona at the time of his death. A five year day student at AMA.

**Wilmer "W. A." Hill, '51**  
20 March 2004, University of Virginia Hospital, Charlottesville, of cancer, age 71. A graduate of Shenandoah Conservatory of Music. From 1978-82,



Hill,  
'51 Recall

Band Director at AMA. Also Band Director at Churchville High School, 1955-56; 1956-60, Nelson County (VA) Elementary School; 1960-62, Page County High School; and 1970-76, Stuart Draft High School. Director of eight choirs in different churches over 45 years. Survived by his wife, Beulah Gilmer Hill; a daughter, Kimberley Hill of Stuarts Draft; two stepdaughters, Linda Clark and Ruth Shull, both of Staunton; five step-grandchildren; and one step great-grandson. At AMA: Sergeant, Headquarters Company; later, Sergeant in Band Company; Cadet Choir; YMCA. Reported by Rod Willey, '51.

**Edward "Buster" Alston, Jr., '67**  
4 April 2004, in Rustburg, VA, cancer. Served in the US Air Force. Survived by his wife, Sophia; her daughter, Sophie Ford Taylor; two grandchildren and a sister, Sally A. Carr. No other

details. At AMA: wrestling team, Privilege List. Reported by Mac McInnis, '67.

**Marc Harvey Minkoff, '67**

December 2003, in Newport News, VA, brain tumor. No other details. At AMA: fencing team, staff sergeant. Reported by Mac McInnis, '67.



Alston,  
'67 Bayonet



Minkoff,  
'67 Recall

**W. DeWitt Campbell, '69**  
4 March 2004, in Augusta, Georgia. Survived by his wife, Sandy; two sons, Patrick and Tyler; and his brother, Harry Campbell, '70. At AMA: first sergeant, A Company; Honor Roll; Privilege List; the Ciceronian Literary Society Medal; Roller Rifles.

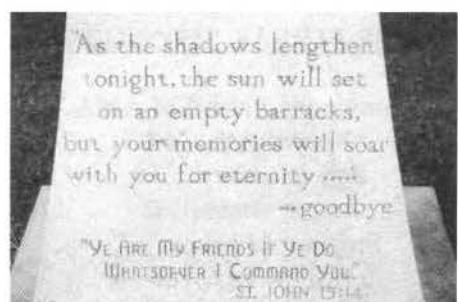


Campbell,  
'69 Recall



Schweitzer,  
'69 Recall

**Richard A. Schweitzer, '69**  
5 April 2004, at home, McKenzie, TN. At AMA: staff sergeant, C Company; JV football; JV lacrosse; JV basketball; *Recall* staff. Reported by his AMA roommate, Bill Baeder, '69.



From General Roller's tombstone

# CONTRIBUTIONS for 2004 YTD

These lovely people made contributions to the AMA Alumni Association and/or the AMA Alumni Foundation so far in 2004. We thank them and salute them! Without the help of our friends, you would not be reading The Bayonet, our Museum would close and we would have no scholarships to offer. Look into your heart, decide what AMA means to you, and please let us hear from you soon.

## GIVING LEVELS

Cadet Club . . . . .	Up to \$50
White Leader . . . . .	\$50 to \$99
Blue Leader . . . . .	\$100 to \$250
Blue & White Champion . . . . .	\$250 to \$499
Blue Streak Sponsor . . . . .	\$500 to \$999
Benefactor . . . . .	\$1,000 to \$2,499
Patron . . . . .	\$2,500 or more
Special Patron . . . . .	\$10,000 or more

## SPECIAL PATRON

Estate of Mickey Gordon, '39 \*  
\* *Roller Society member*

## PATRONS

Robert Harris, '54  
George Holt, '60

## BENEFACTORS

Ed Chauncey, '49  
Mac McInnis, '67  
Gary Nicholson, '70  
Greg Pearce, '65  
Jesse Porter, '64  
Julian Quarles, '35  
Goodloe Saunders, '57  
Tommy Simmons, '53  
Steve Trent, '70  
Al Zayas, '72

## BLUE STREAK SPONSORS

Anonymous Friend of AMA  
Robert Ash, '64  
Bob Bradford, '50  
Angus Hines, '42  
Stephen Matton, '67  
Bill McVey, '60  
Dwight Nitz, '74  
Clyde Ramsey, '49

Dr. George Solan, '43  
Jerry Wildman, '57  
Frank Williamson, '60  
Donation Box at Alumni House

## BLUE & WHITE CHAMPIONS

Duke Fancher, '58  
John Hash, '75  
Jerry Izenberg, '48  
Benjamin Lindsay, '51  
Reed Nettles, '72  
Thomas A. Roller, '36  
Donald Russell, '60  
Luke Snyder, '60  
Frank Spencer, '49  
Rod Willey, '51  
Ben Zinkhan, '60

## BLUE LEADER

Mike Basto, '63  
Bobby Chauncey  
Robert Coffman  
Dave Conrad, '59  
Dominion Foundation  
(Matching Gift/Frank Spencer, '49)

Donald Everitt, '63  
Sergio Fernandez, '56  
Rob and Kathy Freer  
Don Fretz, '48  
Ray Gilbert, '57  
Garry Granger, '71  
Virginia Hallock  
James Hash, '72  
Edward Kotz, '63  
Alex Kozma, '50  
Samuel Lambert, '59  
Thomas Lassell, '54  
Dr. Edward Leventen, '46  
Edward Longmire, '68  
Virginia Mahanes  
(in honor of Jim, '56, and  
in memory of Ronnie, '53)  
Brenda Metz  
Phillip Myers, '71  
Noelle Nicholson, '75

Shawn Ogimachi, '77  
Gene O'Neal, '69  
Michael Payne, '76  
Chuck Pine, '49  
Karen Powell  
Marianne Reissig  
Robert Rhea, '47  
George Richardson, '64  
Charles E. Roller  
Bill Scarborough, '69  
Donald Schwebel, '75  
Ambassador John Shirley, '49  
Frank Shultz, '41  
Richard Smail, '67  
George Snarr, '46  
Stuart Solan  
Delorise Sterling  
Barnes Townsend, '60  
Donald Tucker, '63  
Phillip Wharton, '63  
James White, '52  
Dr. Richard Whittaker, '72  
Betsy Willcox  
John Zirkle, '59

## WHITE LEADER

Paula Abel  
V. T. Bell  
William Bowers, '69  
Ruby Bratton  
Ethyl Chow  
John Congdon, '52  
Lloyd Eastlack, '59  
Betty Fewell  
Cade Holliday, '48  
Joe Josephson, Faculty  
Michael Kidd, '72  
Bill McOwen, '44  
Thomas Mitchell, '52  
Joe Morrow, '75  
George Reaves, '69  
Edmund Ryan, '45  
Gordon Saunders, '60  
Betty Spigle  
Don Studer, Faculty  
Ann Webster  
Robert White, '60  
Kenneth Wray, '51

**CADET CLUB**

Phil Bentley, '83  
 Ernesto Calvo, '52  
 Mark Coolahan, '73  
 Jim Councill, '49  
 Edward Dulin, '54  
 Colonel Dean Hanson, '63  
 William Hastings, '48  
 Paul Karch, '79  
 Raymond Long, '45  
 Lewis Mundin, '53  
 Robert Rhodes, '63  
 Mitchell Toms, '67



Have you given yet in 2004? We hope that your name is on the list, above. If it is, we thank you and hope that will be able to move up on the list the next time we print it.

If you are NOT on the list, remember that our needs are ongoing and they are NOW. The expenses of the AMA Legacy Scholarship and VMI Scholarship Funds, the AMA Museum, and *The Bayonet* are ongoing. We have checks to write every month and we do need your considered help.

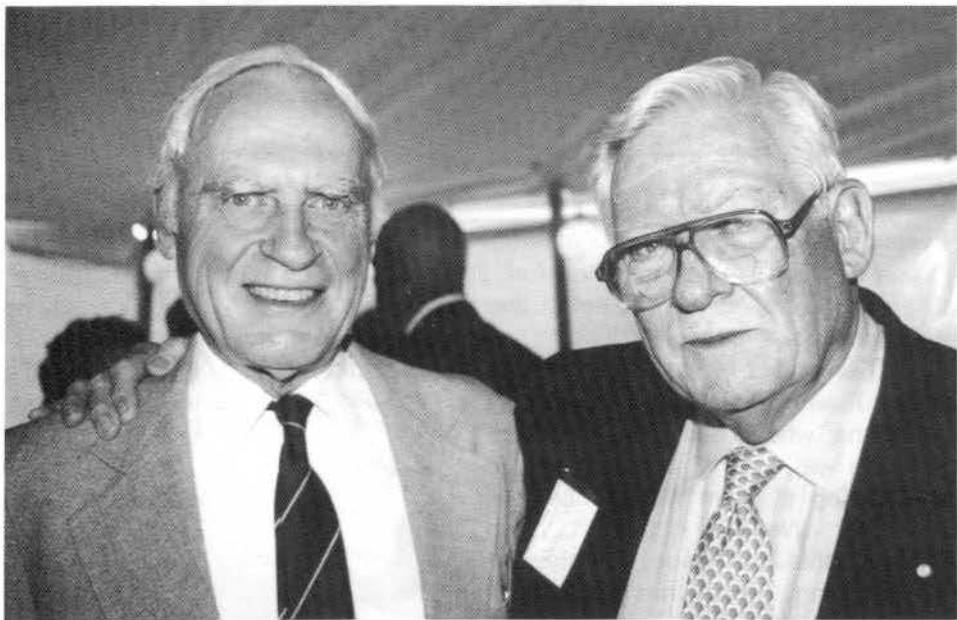
As we always say – look into your heart and decide what AMA means to you. Then, send in your contribution.

A contribution to the AMA Alumni Foundation is *tax deductible* under both Federal and State law. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization specifically created to give our donors a tax deduction.

Mail your check to: AMA Alumni Foundation, P. O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101.

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To use a credit card, give us your card number, the expiration date, and sign your name. Mail to the address above or FAX to: 540/248-4533.

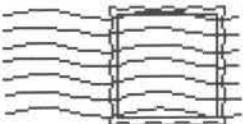


Top, Bill Rand, '48, of Raleigh, NC, and Walter Holt, '44, of Ivy, VA at the Friday Banquet during Reunion 2004.

Center, '69 classmates Gene O'Neal of Fairview, NC and Nicky Syropoulos of Baltimore at the Thursday reception.

Bottom, John Hash, '75, and his daughter, Laura, a "rat" at VMI, at the Awards Banquet.

# Letters to the Editor



## Wrong flag!

I was glad to see the coat of arms from the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba which ran in the Fall 2003 *Bayonet*. I was also in the invasion, but not in the same group as the Cuervo Brothers.

**Eddy Fernandez** Pia and I were at a training camp in Vieques, Puerto Rico. Castro called all of us Cubans who fled our homeland worms, so we "worms" came up with a logo showing a worm with a rifle and *Volveremos - We Shall Return*.

In the Winter 2004 issue, you showed the wrong flag. Please run the correct flag in the next issue.

**Ozzie "Coyote" Ferro, '53**  
Hialeah, FL

(Here it is, above. Sorry for the error - ED)



## A Canadian Cadet

I came to AMA when I was 13 years old, the only cadet from Canada. I had a difficult time understanding why I was there, but now I realize that my parents just wanted what was best for me.

AMA did have a positive effect on me. The '66 yearbook has a picture of me and under it, a quote: "*Cadet Lovatt ponders how long he may last.*" To say the least, I learned a lot that year!

**Tom Lovatt, '66**  
by e-mail: lovatt5204@rogers.com

## Shocked about deaths

I was shocked to read that **John Adams** had passed away. We were at Camp Kanata together and he was in my class. **Jim Burton**, John and I were in an auto accident in the summer of 1959. We had only cuts and bruises and it brought us closer together.

**Captain Farrow** taught me to play the trumpet my freshman year. I did not know that he was still alive and was sorry to hear that he had passed away at age 91.

**Luke Snyder, '60**  
Charlotte, NC

## Taken off the mailing list

It is the perogative of anyone who wants to be taken off the AMA mailing list, and I will have to say that all of my time at AMA was not blissful. But honest introspection tells me that a lot of that was my fault.

Even my most extreme sufferings at AMA had something to do with my behavior. Time and the vengeance of the Lord have borne out my pain and I would rejoice if I did not know that my own failings could have caused others to suffer.

Therefore, I am forgiven, so I shall rejoice! Colonel

Hoover never really made me over, but he didn't fail either. What is our choice? Toil is always hard. Failure is always experienced before success. The soul has to mature.

**Tom Kennedy, '74**  
North Little Rock, AR

## Thanks from the Class of 1984

It was truly a wonderfol moment for me and my family when I finally got to walk across the stage to get a certificate that said I would have graduated in June of '84. Even though it's not really a diploma, it is better in some ways. The idea itself was what AMA was supposed to teach us past academics.

Loyalty! Loyalty from former cadets who only knew my class as names on a list. But the Alumni Association came through for us and gave us that chance to walk across the stage. Not only has that part of my life come to a wonderful close; a new one has opened.

Meeting such a caring and dedicated group of men and women has left me speechless. I have to admit that the first time in my life I could not muster the words to express how I felt up there on the gym stage. I look forward to the next reunion!

**Chris Meek, '68**  
Wilmington, NC

## Father was Fishburne basketball coach

My father was the basketball coach at Fishburne in the 1950's and I am asking anyone who remembers him to share those memories with me.

His clippings said he had a successful run at coaching, but they don't tell me anything about the man. I want to share my Dad with his grandchildren and will appreciate anything you can tell me about him.

Do any of you remember Coach West from Fishburne?

**Paul West**  
by e-mail: Mih1954@aol.com

## Found the AMA Web site

I was so glad to find your web site! I was able to contact **Colonel Livick** who was my first teacher at AMA. I have many fond AMA memories and many stories that make me laugh just thinking about them. It would be nice to hear from guys in my class.

**Stanley Heath, '59**  
by e-mail: StanleyCHING@aol.com

## Enjoyed John Morris article

I really enjoy the articles by **John Morris, '49**. I was in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade when he was First Captain and had a lot of respect for him, even as a lowly private. I remember **Ragsdale** and **Saunders** also.

**Jack Carter, '53**  
Williamsburg, VA

## Taught at AMA in the '80's

I taught at AMA from 1980 until the school closed and worked with **Doc Savedge**. Everytime I drive south to see

my mother in Wytheville, I get off of I-81 and drive slowly by the school, remembering when I lived in Big Barracks.

Elliot Hudson  
Williamsburg, VA

**Grateful for web site and *Bayonet***

I am grateful to everyone who takes time to produce the web page and *The Bayonet*. I enjoy reading about guys who were at AMA when I was there. AMA helped to make me the man I am today. I only wish I had known then what I know now!

Albert Hodges, '78

by e-mail: RoomAtTheInn@Triad.rr.com

**Stuck a sword through my foot**

I had an interesting incident involving **Willie Saunders, '53**. We were on the black top on a beautiful Spring evening awaiting final assembly for Soupie when Willie stuck the point of his sword right into my right foot! Hey, it got me out of drill for a few days! Willie, Tomme Gamewell, Bob Weant, Parker Ward, Lee Phillips and I were 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Tower rats. Ask Willie to tell you about the snowballs thrown at the PMS&T one Monday morning just prior to inspection!

Harold "Charlie" Chow, '53  
Honolulu, HI

Your letters are welcome. E-mail to: AMABayonet@aol.com  
Mail to: 529 Justin Morgan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507  
FAX to: 925/855-7342



**Steve Pearson, '72, said it best:**

**"Some of our guys change their e-mail addresses more often than they change their socks"**

Your friends and classmates can't find you if we don't know where you are. If you change your e-mail address, let us know.

**LOG ON TO: AMAAlumni.org  
STAY CONNECTED**

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## AMA WORD GAME

Find the word held in common by the three words in each puzzle. The three solution words will form a fourth puzzle that describes something at AMA. The numbers indicate each answer's length, and the + tells you the position. Example: Berlin +, + flower, and Wailing + gives you wall (Berlin Wall, wallflower, Wailing Wall)

Motor +

\_\_\_\_\_ + hop

Side + \_\_\_\_\_

③ \_\_\_\_\_ +

order +

West + \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ + winder

④ + \_\_\_\_\_

Big + \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ + mate

Ball + \_\_\_\_\_

④ + \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL**

**ANSWER**

④

Solution on page 48

# AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI FOUNDATION, INC.

## Officers and Trustees 2004-05

**Chairman**  
Goodloe Saunders, '57  
Afton, Virginia

**Vice Chairman**  
Frank Williamson, '60  
Richmond, Virginia  
Frank bev1@aol.com

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
John Hash, '75 \*  
Fort Defiance, Virginia  
johnhashhome@yahoo.com



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AMABayonet@aol.com

Duke Fancher, '58  
Arlington, Virginia  
tdfan@aol.com

Garry Granger, '71 \*  
Double Oak, Texas  
GGranger@FreshAdvantage.com

Gordon Metz, '68  
Martinsville, Virginia

Gary Nicholson, '70  
Red Oak, Virginia  
nickama70@aol.com

Rod Willey, '51  
Fort Defiance, Virginia  
rswilley8@cs.com

\* *Ex officio voting trustees*

## The AMA Alumni Association

The Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. plans and executes annual alumni reunions, operates the PX, sponsors an annual picnic, and supports other "for profit" ventures.

Reunion registration fees, PX purchases and the like are NOT tax deductible.

The Association has a Board of Directors consisting mainly of, but not limited to, alumni of AMA.

There is an annual election of officers at the Membership Meeting during the annual reunions. Officers are selected annually at the board meeting held during the annual alumni reunion.

## The AMA Alumni Foundation

The Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation, Inc. supports the AMA Legacy Scholarship Fund, the VMI Scholarship Fund, the AMA Museum, the maintenance of the alumni mailing lists, and the publishing and distribution of *The Bayonet*.

Gifts to the AMA Alumni Foundation ARE tax deductible.

The AMA Alumni Foundation was created to provide an opportunity for friends of Augusta to support our activities and be entitled to a deduction on federal and state\* income taxes. The AMA Alumni Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as defined by IRS regulations.

When the Alumni Association earns income on any one of its projects, it may, if its officers or board so decide, transfer some or all of those funds to the AMA Alumni Foundation.

However, once money has been deposited to a foundation account, it can be used only for those purposes which would entitle the contributor to a tax deduction (such as scholarships, museum programs or *The Bayonet*).

The foundation IS PROHIBITED from transferring any of its funds to the association

There is an annual election of Trustees and officers at the annual reunions. Trustees may be AMA alumni, but are not required to be.

\* Check with your financial advisor to determine your state's tax rules

# AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

## Officers and Directors 2004-05

**President**

Garry Granger, '71  
Double Oak, Texas  
[ggranger@freshadvantage.com](mailto:ggranger@freshadvantage.com)

**Vice President**

Frank Williamson, '60  
Richmond, Virginia  
[Frank\\_bev1@aol.com](mailto:Frank_bev1@aol.com)

**Treasurer**

John Hash, '75  
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[johnhashhome@yahoo.com](mailto:johnhashhome@yahoo.com)

**Secretary**

Clyde Ramsey, '49  
Asheville, North Carolina

**Chaplain**

Frank Spencer, '49  
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George Holt, '60  
Burlington, North Carolina

Lewie Kennett, '72  
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Gordon Metz, '68  
Martinsville, Virginia

Tommy Mitchell, '52  
Staunton, Virginia

Gary Nicholson, '70  
Red Oak, Virginia  
[nickama70@aol.com](mailto:nickama70@aol.com)

Bruce Orenstein, '69  
Laurel, Maryland  
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Goodloe Saunders, '57  
Afton, Virginia

Tommy Simmons, '53  
West Augusta, Virginia  
+ Luke Snyder, '60  
Charlotte, North Carolina  
[lukesnyder@carolina.rr.com](mailto:lukesnyder@carolina.rr.com)

Frank Spencer, '49  
Charlottesville, Virginia  
[frank-cville@att.net](mailto:frank-cville@att.net)

+ Sergeant Don Studer  
Waynesboro, Virginia  
[donaldstuder@aol.com](mailto:donaldstuder@aol.com)

Nick Syropoulos, '69  
Baltimore, Maryland  
[nas09@aol.com](mailto:nas09@aol.com)

Steve Trent, '70  
Suffolk, Virginia  
[grimsley@mindspring.com](mailto:grimsley@mindspring.com)

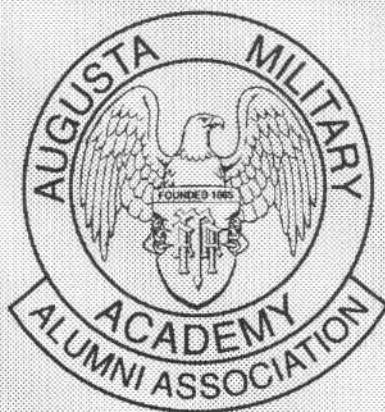
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⊕ ⊕ ⊕  
+ Newly elected director





*t's not that I am afraid to die. I just don't want to be there when it happens.*

That quote is by Woody Allen, and there's more truth than jest in what he said. But you know what? We are all going to have that experience one of these days, and you want to be sure that your family knows exactly what your wishes are at a time like that.

One thing you'll want to think about is your will and any bequests you'll want to make. If your family knows which charities and non-profits you want to remember, it will make it easier for them.

We hope you will consider the AMA Foundation when you are making those decisions. The Foundation is the non-profit side of our AMA alumni efforts and supports our scholarship programs, the Alumni House/Museum, and The Bayonet.

If you'll let us know that you have made a commitment to leave something to AMA when you are no longer here, we'll enroll you in

### *The Roller Society*

Think about it, and let us know if we can be helpful to you in making your decisions.

**AMA Alumni Foundation, PO Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437 \* 540/248-3007**



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